Sunshine Act Meetings

Federal Register
Vol. 56, No. 116
Monday, June 17, 1991

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices of meetings published under the "Government in the Sunshine Act" (Pub. L. 94-409) 5 U.S.C. 552b(e)(3).

LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Office of the Inspector General Oversight Committee

TIME AND DATE: A meeting of the Board of Directors Office of the Inspector General Oversight Committee will be held on June 24, 1991. The meeting will commence at 12:00 p.m.

PLACE: The Marriott Suites Hotel, 801 North St. Asaph Street, The Conference Room, Alexandria, VA 22314, (703) 836–4700.

STATUS OF MEETING: Open [A portion of the meeting may be closed, subject to a vote by a majority of the Board of Directors, to discuss personnel-related and personal matters as authorized by the relevant portions of the Government in the Sunshine Act [5 U.S.C. 552b(c) (2) and (6)], and the corresponding regulations of the Legal Services Corporation [45 C.F.R. Sections 1622.5 (a) and (e)]. A portion of the meeting may be closed to preserve the applicants' personal privacy and to discuss strictly internal personnel rules and practices. Specifically, the Committee will consider responses to questions posed to selected applicants being considered for the position of Inspector General of the Legal Services Corporation.]

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Approval of Agenda.
2. Approval of Minutes of June 3, 1991 Meeting.
3. Consideration of Responses to Questionnaires Submitted by Applicants for the Position of Inspector General of the Legal Services Corporation.

CONTACT PERSON FOR INFORMATION: Patricia D. Batie, Executive Office, (202) 863–1839.

Date issued: June 13, 1991.

Patricia D. Batie,

Corporate Secretary.

AGDAOIG.62491/

[FR Doc. 91–14478 Filed 6–13–91; 1:50 p.m.]

BILLING CODE 7050–01–M

LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Audit and Appropriations Committee Meeting

TIME AND DATE: A meeting of the Board of Directors Audit and Appropriations Committee will be held on June 25, 1991. The meeting will commence at 9:30 a.m.

PLACE: The Marriott Suites Hotel, 801 North St. Asaph Street, Salon III, Alexandria, VA 22314, (703) 836–4700.

STATUS OF MEETING: Open.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Approval of Agenda.
2. Approval of Minutes of March 24, 1991.
3. Status Report on Selection of Independent Auditor to Conduct Corporation's Fiscal Year (FY) 1991 Annual Audit.
4. Consideration of Mid-Year Budget Modifications.
5. Review of Budget and Expenses through April 1991.
6. Consideration of FY 1993 Program Funding Levels.
7. Status Report on Management's Assessment of Corporation Space Needs

CONTACT PERSON FOR INFORMATION: Patricia D. Batie, Executive Office, (202) 863–1839.

Date Issued: June 13, 1991.

Patricia D. Batie,

Corporate Secretary.

AGDA62591/

[FR Doc. 91–14479 Filed 6–13–91; 1:50 p.m.]

BILLING CODE 7050–01–M

Corrections

Federal Register
Vol. 56, No. 116
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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains editorial corrections of previously published Presidential, Rule, Proposed Rule, and Notice documents. These corrections are prepared by the Office of the Federal Register. Agency prepared corrections are issued as signed documents and appear in the appropriate document categories elsewhere in the issue.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 651

[Docket No. 901246-1100]
RIN 06448-AC88

Northeast Multispecies Fishery

Correction

In rule document 91-12894 beginning on page 24724 in the issue of Friday, May 31, 1991, make the following corrections:

1. On page 24725, in the second column, in the sixth paragraph, in the third line, "inconsistent" should read "consistent".

2. On page 24726, in the third column, in the second full paragraph, in the third line, "the" should read "The".

§ 651.21 [Corrected]

3. On page 24728, in the third column, in § 651.21(b)(1)(ii), in the sixth line, "close" should read "closure".

§ 651.27 [Corrected]

4. On page 24749, in the second column, in § 651.27(a)(2), in the third line, "form" should read "from".

BILLING CODE 1505-01-D

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Technical Information Service

Government-owned Inventions; Availability for Licensing

Correction

In notice document 91-8867 beginning on page 15333, in the issue of Tuesday, April 16, 1991 make the following corrections:

1. On the same page, in the third column, in the first paragraph, in the fourth line, after "United States" insert the following "Government and is available for licensing in the United States".

2. On the same page, in the same column, remove the entire fourth paragraph, beginning with "Licensing is available for licensing to * * * ".

BILLING CODE 1505-01-D

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Educational Research and Improvement—Library Programs; Invitation To Apply for New Awards for Fiscal Year 1992

Correction

In notice document 91-13909 beginning on page 27156 in the issue of Wednesday, June 12, 1991, make the following corrections:

1. On the cover preceding page 27156, the subject matter should read as follows:

Office of Educational Research and Improvement—Library Programs; Invitation To Apply for New Awards; Notice

2. On page 27158, in the third column, the FR Doc. line should read as follows:

[FR Doc. 91-13909 Filed 6-11-91; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 1505-01-D

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. ER91-435-000, et al.]

D C Tie Inc., et al.; Electric Rate, Small Power Production, and Interlocking Directorate Filings

Correction

In notice document 91-12059 beginning on page 23558, in the issue of Wednesday, May 22, 1991, make the following correction:

On page 23559, in the first column, the Docket No. for **PacifiCorp Electric Operations** should read "ER91-329-000".

BILLING CODE 1505-01-D

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP91-156-000]

Northern Natural Gas Co.; Temporary Waiver of Tariff Provision

Correction

In notice document 91-12853 appearing on page 24801, in the issue of Friday, May 31, 1991, in the first column, the docket number heading should read as shown above.

BILLING CODE 1505-01-D

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 10818-000]

Greenbrier Electro-motive, Inc.; Availability of Environmental Assessment

Correction

In notice document 91-12060 appearing on page 23562, in the issue of Wednesday, May 22, 1991, the Project No. should read as shown above.

BILLING CODE 1505-01-D

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

21 CFR Part 630

[Docket No. 86N-0027]

Additional Standards for Viral Vaccines; Poliovirus Vaccine Live Oral

Correction

In rule document 91-10929 beginning on page 21418 in the issue of Wednesday, May 8, 1991, make the following corrections:

1. On page 21421, in the first column, in the eighth line from the bottom, "extension" should read "extensive".

2. On same page, in the third column, in sixth line, "§ 630.1198(d)" should read "§ 630.19(d)".

3. On page 21427, in the first column, in the seventh line from the bottom, "monoalen" should read "monovalent".

4. On page 21430, in the third column, in the seventh line from the bottom, after "neurovirulence" insert "and identity".

5. On page 21431, in first column, in the tenth line, "pods" should read "pools".

6. On same page, in the same column, in paragraph 33, in the fifth line, "manufacture" should read "manufacturer".

§ 630.12 [Corrected]

7. On page 21433, in the second column, in § 630.12(a)(3), in the second line "for" should read "from".

§ 630.18 [Corrected]

8. On page 21436, in the third column, in § 630.18(a)(3), in the eighth line from the bottom, "14 days" should read "14-day test".

§ 630.18 [Corrected]

9. On page 21437, in the first column, in § 630.18(a)(5), in the sixth line from the bottom, "14 years" should read "14 days".

BILLING CODE 1505-01-D

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

Environmental Impact Statement: Pulp and Paper Facility Proposed by Mead Corporation on the Tennessee River

Correction

In notice document 91-11114 beginning on page 21704, in the issue of Friday, May 10, 1991 make the following corrections:

On page 21705, in the 1st column, in the 3d full paragraph, in the 10th line, and in the 5th paragraph, in the 3d, 11th, 14th, and 16th lines "USAGE" should read "USACE".

BILLING CODE 1505-01-D

federal register

Monday
June 17, 1991

Part II

Uniform Rules of Practice; Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

Department of the Treasury
Office of the Comptroller of the Currency
Office of Thrift Supervision
Federal Reserve System
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
National Credit Union Administration

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

12 CFR Part 19

[Docket No. 91-4]

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

12 CFR Part 263

[Docket No. R-0733]

RIN 7100-AB23

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

12 CFR Part 308

RIN 3064-AA64

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of Thrift Supervision

12 CFR Parts 508, 509, 512, and 513

[Docket No. 91-333]

RIN 1550-AA35

NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION

12 CFR Part 747

[Docket No. 91-06-C]

Uniform Rules of Practice and Procedure

AGENCIES: Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Treasury; Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; Office of Thrift Supervision, Treasury; and National Credit Union Administration.

ACTION: Joint notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: Section 916 of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 requires that the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency ("OCC"), Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System ("Board of Governors"), Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC"), Office of Thrift Supervision ("OTS"), and National Credit Union Administration ("NCUA") develop a set of uniform rules and procedures for administrative hearings ("Uniform Rules"). Section 916 further requires that the agencies promulgate provisions for summary judgment rulings where there are no disputes as to the material facts of a case.

This proposal is intended to make uniform those rules that pertain to the types of formal enforcement actions common to at least four of the listed agencies. In addition to these Uniform Rules, each agency proposes complementary "Local Rules" to address some or all of the following: formal enforcement actions not addressed in the Uniform Rules, informal actions which are not subject to the Administrative Procedure Act ("APA"), and procedures to supplement or facilitate the processing of administrative enforcement actions within each agency.

DATES: Comments on this joint proposed rule must be received by July 17, 1991.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be directed to:

OCC: Communications Division, 250 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20219, attention: Docket No. 91-4. Comments will be available for public inspection and photocopying at the same location.

Board of Governors: Mr. William Wiles, Secretary of the Board, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 20th and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20551, attention: Docket No. R-0733 or delivered to room B-2223, Eccles Building, between 8:45 a.m. and 5:15 p.m. Comments may be inspected in room B-1122 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., except as provided in § 261.8 of the Board's Rules Regarding Availability of Information, 12 CFR 261.8.

FDIC: Hoyle L. Robinson, Executive Secretary, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 550 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20429. Comments may be hand delivered to room F-402, 1776 F Street NW., Washington, DC, on business days between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Comments may also be inspected in room F-402 between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. on business days. [FAX number (202) 898-3838]

OTS: Director, Information Services Division, Office of Communications, Office of Thrift Supervision, 1700 G Street NW., Washington, DC 20552, attention: Docket No. 91-333. Comments will be available for inspection at 1735 I Street NW. 9th floor.

NCUA: Send comments to Becky Baker, Secretary, NCUA Board, 1776 G Street NW., Washington, DC 20456. Comments will be available for inspection at the same location.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

OOC: Barrett Aldemeyer, Senior Attorney, or Lee Walzer, Attorney, Legislative and Regulatory Analysis Division (202/874-5090), or Daniel Stipano, Assistant Director, Enforcement and Compliance Division (202/874-4800).

Board of Governors: Douglas Jordan, Senior Attorney, Legal Division (202/452-3787), or Ann Marie Kohlligian, Senior Counsel, Division of Banking Supervision and Regulation (202/452-3528). For the hearing impaired only, Telecommunication Device for the Deaf (TDD), Earnestine Hill or Dorothea Thompson (202/452-3544).

FDIC: Nancy Alper, Counsel, Compliance and Enforcement Section (202/898-3720) or Andrea Winkler, Counsel, Compliance and Enforcement Section (202/898-3764).

OTS: Dawn Causey, Attorney, Division of Enforcement (202/906-7157).

NCUA: Steven Widerman or Mary Rupp, Attorneys, Office of General Counsel (202/682-9630).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

Section 916 of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 ("FIRREA"), Public Law No. 101-73, 103 Stat. 183 (1989), requires that the OCC, Board of Governors, FDIC, OTS, and NCUA develop a set of uniform rules and procedures for administrative hearings. In addition, FIRREA requires the agencies to promulgate provisions for summary judgment rulings where there are no disputes as to the material facts of a case.

By including this provision in FIRREA, Congress intended that the listed agencies, by promulgating uniform procedures, would improve and expedite their administrative proceedings. The statutory provision is a reflection of "recent recommendations of the Administrative Conference of the United States and the House Government Operations Committee." H.R. Rep. No. 54, 101st Cong., 1st Sess., pt. 1, at 396. The Administrative Conference of the United States found in its December 30, 1987 recommendation that "(g)iven the similar statutory bases for these enforcement actions, the five agencies jointly should be able to develop substantially similar rules of procedure and practice for formal enforcement proceedings." 1 CFR 305.87-12.

B. Uniform Rules

As set forth below, there shall be at least two subparts to each listed agency's new rules of practice and procedure. The first subpart, designated "Uniform Rules," will set forth the uniform rules of practice and procedure for those formal enforcement actions which are required by statute to be

determined on the record after an opportunity for an agency hearing and which are common to at least four of the agencies. Those enforcement actions include cease- and-desist proceedings under section 8(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act ("FDIA") (12 U.S.C. 1818(b)) and section 206(e) of the Federal Credit Union Act ("FCUA") (12 U.S.C. 1786(e)); removal and prohibition proceedings under section 8(e) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1818(e)) and section 206(g) of the FCUA (12 U.S.C. 1786(g)); change-in-control proceedings under section 7(j)(4) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)(4)); proceedings under section 15C(c)(2) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act") (15 U.S.C. 78o–5); the assessment of civil money penalties, pursuant to various statutes, as cited in the Uniform Rules, for (1) violations of law or regulation; (2) violation of any final order or temporary order issued pursuant to section 8 of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1818(b)), or sections 202 and 206 of the FCUA (12 U.S.C. 1782 and 1786); (3) violation of any conditions imposed in writing by the appropriate Federal banking agency in connection with the grant of any application or other request by a regulated institution; (4) violations of any written agreement between such a regulated institution and such agency; (5) violations related to the failure to submit and publish accurate and complete regulatory reports; and (6) certain unsafe and unsound practices and breaches of fiduciary duty. The Uniform Rules will also apply to any other formal adjudications not specifically set forth in the Uniform Rules that are required by statute to be determined on the record after an opportunity for an agency hearing and are common to at least four of the five agencies.

C. Local Rules

The remainder of the proposed rules, designated "Local Rules," will be divided into five sections, one for each of the agencies. In these sections each agency will set forth its own rules to address some or all of the following topics: formal enforcement actions common to fewer than four of the five agencies, informal actions which are not subject to the APA, and procedures to supplement or facilitate the processing of administrative enforcement actions within each agency. The Local Rules will address the following proceedings:

OCC Proceedings. Removal, suspension, and prohibition proceedings under section 8(g) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1818(g)); exemption hearings under sections 12 (h) and (i) of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78*l* (h) and (i)); disciplinary proceedings under sections 15B(c)(5), 15C(c)(2)(A), 17A(c)(3), and 17A(c)(4)(C) of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78o–4(c)(5), 78o–5(c)(2)(A), 78q–1(c)(3)(A), and 78q–1(c)(4)(C)); civil money penalty proceedings under section 21B of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78u–2) in proceedings under sections 15B, 15C, and 17A of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78o–4, 78o–5, and 78q–1); cease-and-desist proceedings under sections 12(i) and 21C of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78*l*(i) and 78u–3); and proceedings for the review of agency disapprovals in change-in-control proceedings under section 7(j) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)).

Board of Governors Proceedings. Suspension of a member bank from use of Federal Reserve credit facilities under section 4 of the Federal Reserve Act ("FRA") (12 U.S.C. 301); termination of a bank's membership in the Federal Reserve System under section 9 of the FRA (12 U.S.C. 327); issuance of a cease and desist order under section 11 of the Clayton Act (15 U.S.C. 21); formal adjudication of bank merger applications under section 18(c) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1828(c)); issuance of a divestiture order under section 5(e) of the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1844(e)); disciplinary proceedings under section 15B(c)(5) of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78o–4); procedures relating to the imposition of civil money penalties under specified statutes; procedures relating to the suspension, removal or prohibition of institution-affiliated parties under section 8(g) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1818(g)); procedures for issuance and enforcement of capital directives under the International Lending Supervision Act of 1983; procedures for censure, suspension or debarment of practitioners before the Board of Governors; and procedures for actions under the Equal Access to Justice Act (5 U.S.C. 504).

FDIC Proceedings. Change in Bank Control proceedings under section 7(j) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)); involuntary termination of insurance proceedings under section 8(a) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1818(a)); proceedings relating to cease-and-desist orders under section 8(b) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1818(b)); proceedings relating to the assessment of civil money penalties pursuant to sections 7(a), 8(i) and 18(j) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1817(a), 1818(i) and 1828(j)); proceedings regarding sanctions against municipal securities dealers or persons associated with them and clearing agencies or transfer agents under section 15(b)(4), 17, or 17A of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78o, 78q and 78q–1); exemption hearings under section 12(h) of the Exchange Act (12 U.S.C. 78*l*(h)); investigations pursuant to section 10(c) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1820(c)); proceedings relating to change in senior executive officers or directors under section 32 of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1831i); proceedings relating to unauthorized participation by convicted individuals under section 19 of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1829); proceedings relating to the assessment of liability against commonly-controlled depository institutions under section 5(e) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1815(e)); proceedings relating to the recovery of fees and other expenses under the Equal Access to Justice Act, 5 U.S.C. 504.

OTS Proceedings. The OTS Local Rules augment the Uniform Rules by expanding the scope of the Uniform Rules to apply to particular savings and loan holding company and securities proceedings, adding deposition discovery, clarifying the time and method for filing motions before the Director, and civil money penalties. OTS's non-APA proceedings are not contained in its part 509. The non-APA proceedings may be found at part 508 (removals, suspensions, and prohibitions where a crime is charged or proven), part 512 (investigations), and part 513 (disciplinary proceedings).

NCUA Proceedings. The new subpart A replaces the existing subparts A [Rules of Practice and Procedure], C [Cease-and- desist Actions], D [Assessment of Civil Penalties] and E [Removal, Prohibition and Suspension Actions]. A new subpart B is reserved for local rules of practice and procedure, unique to the NCUA, which may be developed in the future. The existing subparts B, F, G, H, I, J, K and L remain unchanged in substance. To conform to the elimination of existing subparts C, D and E, however, these remaining subparts are redesignated subparts C, D, E, F, G, H, I and J, respectively, and the sections of each are renumbered sequentially. The new subparts B through J shall be known as the NCUA's Local Rules.

The Uniform Rules, as set forth in the subpart A, supplement the Local Rules and procedures set forth individually in new subparts C, E, F and G. (New subparts D, H, I and J concern proceedings which either are informal or non-adjudicative, and to which the Uniform Rules do not apply.) However, each of subparts C, E, F and G provides that its own provisions shall control in the event of an inconsistency with those of subpart A.

D. Section-by-Section Summary and Discussion of Uniform Rules

Section_____.1 Scope.

As a result of the statutory mandate contained in Section 916 of FIRREA, the Agencies are proposing a set of administrative hearing procedures that cover those proceedings that at least four of the five Agencies share in common and that require a formal hearing before an administrative law judge. These common proceedings include cease-and-desist actions, removal and prohibition actions and the assessment of civil money penalties. In addition, four of the five agencies share regulatory authority over the adjudication of change-in-control applications (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)(4)) and hearings to impose sanctions on government securities brokers and dealers (15 U.S.C. 78o–5). Proceedings such as the termination of insurance are common only to the FDIC and the NCUA, and as a consequence, are not included in this proposal. Procedures for such non-common proceedings may be found in the Local Rules of the particular Agency.

Section_____.2 Rules of construction.

This section makes clear that the use of any term in the Uniform Rules includes either its singular or plural form, as appropriate, and that the use of the masculine, feminine or neuter gender shall, if appropriate, be read to encompass all three. Because the Uniform Rules allow for non-attorney representation under certain circumstances, the Rules of Construction indicate that the term "counsel" includes non-attorney representatives. Finally, this section explicitly states that, unless otherwise indicated, any action required to be taken by a party to a proceeding may be taken by the party's counsel.

Section_____.3 Definitions.

This section sets forth definitions of the terms that will be common to the procedures used by the OCC, Board of Governors, FDIC, OTS, and NCUA. Definitions which do not pertain to procedures regarding formal enforcement actions common to at least four of these agencies, but which pertain instead to a particular agency's actions or procedures which are not covered by these Uniform Rules, are contained in that agency's Local Rules. The definitions contained in this section apply to the use of any such term in the Uniform and Local Rules, unless otherwise explicitly stated to the contrary.

An "administrative law judge" is defined in paragraph (a) as the one who presides at an administrative hearing, and who has the powers enumerated in the APA. The term "Office of Financial Institution Adjudication (OFIA)" means the executive body charged with overseeing the administration of administrative enforcement proceedings. These definitions reflect the mandate of FIRREA that the agencies establish a common pool of administrative law judges for their enforcement proceedings. OFIA is the executive body established to oversee the administration of such proceedings.

The definition of "adjudicatory proceeding" in paragraph (b) indicates that the rules apply only to formal administrative proceedings subject to the APA which result in a final order, and do not include rulemaking procedures.

"Final order" is defined in paragraph (g) to mean an order issued by an Agency with or without the consent of the affected institution or institution-affiliated party, that has become final. The finality of such an order is not affected by the pendency of any petition for reconsideration or review.

The definition of "Agency" in paragraph (c) sets forth the institutions over which the OCC, Board of Governors, FDIC, OTS, and NCUA have supervisory authority. The definition of "Agency Head" indicates the body or the individual that is the decision maker within each Agency.

The term "institution" includes any organization subject to the jurisdiction of the five agencies—banks, bank and savings association holding companies, nonbank subsidiaries of holding companies, Federal credit unions, insured state credit unions, savings associations, Edge Act companies, and branches and agencies of foreign banks.

The term "decisional employee" denotes those members of the Agency's or administrative law judge's staff who have not engaged in an investigative or prosecutorial role in an adjudicatory proceeding, and who may play a role in the proceeding's decisionmaking process. "Enforcement Counsel" are defined as individuals who file a notice of appearance as counsel on behalf of the Agency in an adjudicatory proceeding.

The term "person" is intended to be construed broadly, and encompasses an individual, sole proprietor, partnership, corporation, unincorporated association, trust, joint venture, pool, syndicate, agency or other entity or organization, including an institution as defined in paragraph (h). A "party" includes the Agency and any person named in the notice which commences a proceeding. "Institution-affiliated party" incorporates the definition of that term found in both the FDIA and the FCUA. A "respondent" is a party other than the Agency.

The term "violation", defined in paragraph (n), means any action (alone or with another or others) for or toward causing, bringing about, participating in, counseling, or aiding or abetting a violation.

Section_____.4 Authority of Agency Head.

This section makes clear that the Agency Head may, at any time during a proceeding, perform, direct the performance of, or waive performance of, any act which may be done or ordered by the administrative law judge.

Section_____.5 Authority of administrative law judge.

This section enumerates powers granted to the administrative law judge subsequent to appointment. The list is not exhaustive. The administrative law judge is permitted to take any other action necessary and appropriate to discharge the duties of a presiding officer. All powers granted by this provision are intended to further the Agency's goal of an expeditious, fair, and impartial hearing process.

Section_____.6 Appearance and practice in adjudicatory proceedings.

This section sets forth the criteria for persons acting in a representative capacity for parties in an adjudicatory proceeding. A notice of appearance is required to be filed by an individual representing any party, including an individual representing the Agency, simultaneously with or before the submission of papers or other act of representation on behalf of a party. Any counsel filing a notice of appearance is deemed to represent that he or she agrees and is authorized to accept service on behalf of the represented party.

Section_____.7 Good faith certification.

This section requires that all filings or submissions be signed by at least one counsel of record or the party, if appearing on his or her own behalf. This section provides that, by signing a filing or submission, the counsel or party certifies and attests that the document has been read by the signer and, to the best of his or her knowledge, is well grounded in fact and is supported by existing law or a good faith argument for

the extension or modification of the existing law. In addition, the certification attests that the filing or submission is not for purposes of unnecessary delay or any improper purpose. If the document is not signed, an opportunity to sign will be granted; however, if after such opportunity the document is still not signed, the administrative law judge is required to strike it from the record of the proceeding. Oral motions or arguments are also subject to the good faith certification: the act of making the oral motion or argument constitutes the required certification.

Section _____.8 Conflicts of interest.

In general, conflicts of interest in representing parties to adjudicatory proceedings are prohibited by the Uniform Rules. The administrative law judge is empowered to take corrective steps to eliminate such conflicts. If counsel represents more than one party to a proceeding, counsel is required to file at the time he or she files his or her notice of appearance a certification that: (1) The potential for possible conflicts of interest has been fully discussed with each such party; (2) the parties are aware of no existing or anticipated material conflict between their interests individually; and, (3) the parties individually waive any right to assert the conflicts of interest during the proceeding. This outlined approach follows the Model Code of Conduct for attorneys and the District of Columbia Ethics Rule.

Section_____.9 Ex parte communications.

This section adopts the rules and procedures set forth in the APA regarding ex parte communications. See 5 U.S.C. 551(14) and 557(d). Generally, any communications without notice to all other parties between parties or interested persons and those involved in the decisionmaking process is prohibited. This includes communications from a party, counsel for the party, or an interested person to the administrative law judge, the Agency Head, or a decisional employee assisting the administrative law judge or Agency Head. Similarly, administrative law judges, Agency Heads and their decisional employees are prohibited from making ex parte communications to a party, counsel for a party, or an interested person. Communications regarding the status of the proceeding are expressly excluded from the definition of ex parte communications.

If an ex parte communication does occur, the document itself, or if oral, a memorandum of the substance of the communication, must be placed in the record. All other parties to the proceeding may have the opportunity to respond to the prohibited communication, and such response may include a recommendation for sanctions. The administrative law judge or the Agency Head may determine whether sanctions are appropriate.

Section_____.10 Filing papers.

This section addresses the time and manner of filing by incorporating a "mailbox rule" to determine when a document is deemed filed, and applying it to all common methods of transmitting documents.

The provision for transmission by electronic media authorizes filing by facsimile, computer modem, or other electronic media, but only where such method is authorized by the recipient of the filing, *i.e.*, the Agency Head or administrative law judge, as the case may be. It is recognized that such filings will be the exception rather than the rule, will seldom be appropriate for filings longer than a few pages, and can only be used where appropriate facilities are available. Nevertheless, it is contemplated that electronic filings will be useful in certain circumstances, such as where rapid rulings on motions and responses are necessary. The recipient of the filing, *i.e.*, the Agency Head or the administrative law judge, is accorded the discretion to determine when such circumstances exist. A concurrent filing of a paper copy is required to ensure that the requirements as to form, such as an original signature, are observed in electronic filings just as they must be in other filings.

Section_____.11 Service of papers.

Where the person served has not made an appearance in the proceeding, the proposed Uniform Rules require that reasonable measures be taken to convey actual notice. The requirements regarding service upon a party that has made an appearance in a proceeding closely resembles the provision regarding filing. Service by electronic media is subject to mutual agreement among the parties; consequently, electronic service is not effective upon a party that has not consented to electronic service.

Section_____.12 Construction of time limits.

The general rule on construction of time limits provides common rules for computing time limits, taking into account the effect of weekends and holidays. The rules as to when papers are deemed filed or served incorporate a "mailbox rule" applicable to mail and commercial delivery services. The effective time for filing or service by electronic medium is to be specified by the person authorizing or agreeing to that means of filing or service. With regard to time limits for responsive pleadings, the rules incorporate a three-day extension for mail service, similar to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and a one-day extension for overnight delivery, as contained in some agencies' existing rules. A one-day extension for service by electronic medium is proposed because experience shows that delays in actual receipt by the person served are peculiar to such media (*e.g.*, transmission after office hours, unattended facsimile machines, etc.)

Section_____.13 Change of time limits.

Except as otherwise provided by law, the time limits prescribed by the Uniform Rules may be extended by the administrative law judge for good cause, prior to certification of the case to the Agency Head, and by the Agency Head after such certification. Motions for extension of time are subject to the rules generally applicable to motions.

Section_____.14 Witness fees and expenses.

The provisions for witness fees and expenses implement the provisions of 12 U.S.C. 1818(n) and 12 U.S.C. 1786(p) that provide that fees and expenses for witnesses subpoenaed pursuant to these Uniform Rules shall be the same as for witnesses in United States district courts.

Section_____.15 Opportunity for informal settlement.

This section makes explicit that informal settlement proposals by respondents must be made only through Enforcement Counsel and that settlement discussions may not be used to delay proceedings.

Section_____.16 Agency's right to conduct examination.

This section states that nothing contained in the Uniform Rules shall be construed to limit the right of the Agency to conduct examinations or visitations of any institution or institution-affiliated party, or the right of the Agency to conduct any form of investigation authorized by law.

Section_____.17 Collateral attacks on adjudicatory proceedings.

This section precludes the use of collateral attacks to circumvent or delay the administrative process and reflects

the anti-injunction provisions of 12 U.S.C. 1818(i) and 12 U.S.C. 1786(k)(1).

Section _____.18 Commencement of proceeding and contents of notice.

This section contains the requirements relating to the initiation of adjudicatory proceedings, including the required content of a notice or order initiating a hearing.

Section _____.19 Answer.

This section sets forth the time period in which to file an answer and the requirements of the answer. Failure to file a timely answer is deemed to be a waiver of the right to appear and a consent to the entry of an order granting the relief sought by the Agency in the notice. This section makes explicit that, in case of default, the administrative law judge, without any further proceedings, shall file with the Agency Head a recommended decision containing the relief sought in the notice.

Section _____.20 Amended pleadings.

This section provides that the administrative law judge shall freely allow the parties to amend the notice or answer at any stage of the proceeding. Amendments to the notice and answer are not required when issues not raised by the notice or answer are tried at the hearing by express or implied consent of the parties.

Section _____.21 Failure to appear.

A party's failure to appear at a hearing personally or by an authorized representative is deemed a waiver of the right to appear and a consent to the relief sought in the notice. When a party fails to appear, the administrative law judge shall file with the Agency Head a recommended decision containing the findings and the relief sought in the notice, without further proceedings or notice to the respondent.

Section _____.22 Consolidation and severance of actions.

This section allows the consolidation of actions if the proceedings arise out of the same transaction, occurrence or series of transactions or if the proceedings involve at least one common respondent or a material common question of law or fact. Proceedings are not to be consolidated if to do so would unreasonably delay the proceeding or cause significant injustice.

Severance, on the other hand, may be granted by the administrative law judge only if the judge determines that undue prejudice or injustice would result from a consolidated proceeding and if such prejudice or injustice would outweigh the interests of judicial economy and speed in the adjudication of actions. This is a higher standard than is required for the consolidation of actions.

Section _____.23 Motions.

This section generally requires that all motions must be in writing, must state with particularity the relief sought, and must include a proposed order. The Uniform Rules permit supplementary materials such as briefs, written memoranda or other relevant material or documents to be filed in support of a motion. In addition, a party may make oral motions in the course of an adjudicatory proceeding, including any scheduling or prehearing conference, unless the administrative law judge requires that the motion be made in writing. Motions are to be submitted to the administrative law judge prior to the filing of the recommended decision; thereafter, motions are to be filed with the Agency Head.

Unless the administrative law judge or the Agency Head establishes another time period, a party will have ten days after service of a written motion to respond in writing to such motion. A party's failure to respond to a motion shall waive that party's right to oppose such motion and constitute consent to the entry of an order substantially in the form of the order accompanying the motion.

Frivolous or repetitive motions are not permitted and may be cause for sanctions.

Section _____.24 Scope of document discovery.

This section provides for, and sets forth procedures governing, document discovery. Deposition discovery is discussed in the Local Rules.

All discovery, including all responses to discovery requests, must be completed at least 20 days before the scheduled hearing date, unless the Local Rules provide otherwise. Parties may seek all relevant material, including those matters that are reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. The Uniform Rules provide, however, that all applicable privileges may be asserted in response to a discovery request.

Section _____.25 Request for document discovery from parties.

The Uniform Rules are modeled on the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure discovery practice in that all document discovery among parties is initiated by requests from the parties, and, except for the resolution of disputes, without the involvement of the administrative law judge. There is no continuing obligation to update responses if the response was complete when made, unless the party subsequently learns that the response was materially incorrect when made or, through intervening events, is no longer correct and a failure to amend the response would be a knowing concealment.

This section provides that, when a discovery request seeks documents covered by applicable privileges, the party asserting the privilege must file a document index of such material. This section also contains procedures governing discovery disputes. In general, such disputes are resolved through motion practice before the administrative law judge. If the administrative law judge issues a subpoena compelling production and a party fails to comply with it, a subpoenaing party, to the extent authorized by law, may seek enforcement of such subpoena in any appropriate United States district court.

Section _____.26 Document subpoenas to nonparties.

Parties may seek document discovery from nonparties through subpoenas issued by the administrative law judge upon the application of a party. Motions to quash or modify document subpoenas are governed by the same rules that apply to document requests by parties set forth in § _____.25(d).

Section _____.27 Deposition of witness unavailable for hearing.

In general, those material witnesses unavailable for hearing may have their testimony taken by deposition upon application to the administrative law judge for a deposition subpoena. The application must state that the witness is unavailable due to age, illness, infirmity or other reason and that the petitioning party was not the cause of the witness's unavailability. The witness and any party may object to the issuance of the subpoena within ten days of service of the subpoena. Unless quashed or modified by the administrative law judge, the subpoena may be enforced in United States district court.

Section _____.28 Interlocutory review.

This section provides for a review by the Agency Head of an administrative law judge's ruling prior to the time when the record is certified to the Agency Head. Review will be granted only on the basis of the specific grounds enumerated in this provision.

A request for interlocutory review must be filed with the administrative

law judge within ten days of his or her ruling, and any party may file a response to such a request. The administrative law judge shall refer to the Agency Head for disposition all such requests for interlocutory review together with any responses.

The filing or granting of a request for interlocutory review does not stay the proceedings, unless the administrative law judge or the Agency Head so orders.

Section_____.29 Summary disposition.

Section_____.30 Partial summary disposition.

Any party to a proceeding may file a motion for summary disposition of a proceeding or for a partial summary disposition of a portion of a proceeding if: (1) There is no genuine issue as to any material fact; and (2) the moving party is entitled to a favorable decision as a matter of law. The motion must be accompanied by a statement of the uncontested material facts, a brief, and any documentary evidence in support of the motion. Within 20 days of service of a motion for summary or partial summary disposition, any other party may file his or her opposition to such motion. Parties opposing the motion for summary or partial summary disposition must file with their response a statement of material facts as to which a genuine dispute exists, a brief, and any documentary evidence in support of the opposition.

If the administrative law judge determines that summary disposition is warranted, a recommended decision to that effect is required to be submitted to the Agency Head. If only a portion of the proceeding warrants summary disposition, the administrative law judge will accordingly limit the issues for hearing to the remaining claims, while the issues which warranted summary disposition will be addressed in the administrative law judge's recommended decision filed at the conclusion of the hearing. Thus, the recommended decision of the administrative law judge will set forth both the issues determined by partial summary disposition and those determined after a hearing. This procedure avoids the piecemeal submission of recommended decisions to the Agency Head while encouraging judicial economy by limiting the hearing to those issues as to which there is a genuine controversy.

Section_____.31 Scheduling and prehearing conferences.

A scheduling conference is mandatory under the Uniform Rules. The conference must be held within 30 days of service of the notice or order commencing the proceeding. The purpose of the scheduling conference is to establish the course and conduct of the proceeding. Issues to be discussed at the scheduling conference include the identification of potential witnesses, the time for and the manner of discovery, and the exchange of any prehearing materials including proposed witness lists, statements of issues, stipulations, exhibits and any other documents determined to be appropriate.

Additional prehearing conferences may be held at the discretion of the administrative law judge or at the request of any party. These conferences would occur after the scheduling conference and would address issues such as: simplification and clarification of issues; stipulations, admissions of fact and the contents, authenticity or admissibility of evidence; matters requiring official notice; limitation of the number of witnesses; summary disposition of issues; resolution of discovery issues; amendments to pleadings; and other matters.

The presence of a court reporter at the scheduling conference or at any prehearing conference is within the discretion of the administrative law judge. Within a reasonable time following the conclusion of the scheduling or prehearing conference, the administrative law judge is required to serve on each party an order setting forth any procedural determinations and agreements made at the conference.

Section_____.32 Prehearing submissions.

No later than 14 days prior to the start of the hearing, each party is required to serve on every other party the following documents: A prehearing statement; a final list of witnesses to be called to testify that includes a description of the expected testimony of each witness; and a list of prehearing exhibits along with a copy of each such exhibit and stipulations of fact, if any. The failure of a party to comply with this provision will preclude that party from presenting its witnesses or exhibits at the hearing, except for good cause shown.

Section _____.33 Public hearings.

The proposed provision that hearings will be public rather than private unless otherwise determined by the Agency implements a statutory requirement established by the "Comprehensive Thrift and Bank Fraud Prosecution and Taxpayer Recovery Act of 1990" ("Fraud Prosecution Act"), Title XXV of the Crime Control Act of 1990, Public Law 101–647, 104 Stat. 4789. Within 20 days of service of the notice, any respondent may file with the Agency Head a request for a private hearing, and any party may file a response to such a request. Failure to file such a request or response will preclude the raising of further objections on the issue of whether the hearing is public or private. The proposed section also implements a provision of the Fraud Prosecution Act by specifying that the Agency through its Enforcement Counsel may file under seal any document or any portion thereof, and that the administrative law judge will take all actions necessary to protect the confidentiality of such documents.

Section _____.34 Hearing subpoenas.

A party may obtain a hearing subpoena at any time after the commencement of a proceeding, including during a hearing, so long as the testimony sought is relevant and reasonable. Once the administrative law judge has issued a subpoena pursuant to this section, only the subpoenaed person may move to quash or limit it. If a person fails to comply with a hearing subpoena, the subpoenaing party may, to the extent authorized by law, seek enforcement of the subpoena in any appropriate United States district court.

Section _____.35 Conduct of hearings.

This section provides general rules for the conduct of hearings, the admissibility of stipulations, and the order in which the parties are to present their cases.

Section _____.36 Evidence.

This section states that evidence that is relevant, material, reliable, and not unduly repetitive shall be admissible to the fullest extent authorized by the APA and other applicable law. Evidence which is admissible under the Federal Rules of Evidence is admissible in a formal proceeding governed by the Uniform Rules; however, evidence need not meet the standards of the Federal Rules to be admissible, as long as it is relevant, material, reliable and not unduly repetitive.

Official notice may be taken of any material fact which may be judicially noticed by a United States district court or which appears in the official public records of any Federal or state government agency. Unless there is a genuine material issue raised about the veracity and legibility of a document, duplicates may be used to the same extent as originals.

Subject to the general standards for admissibility, any document prepared by the appropriate Agency or state regulatory agency is admissible with or without a sponsoring witness. Such documents include a report of supervisory activity, examination, inspection or visitation. In the event that a witness is unavailable to testify in a hearing, a party may offer into evidence that witness's prior deposition testimony if all parties to the proceeding had notice and an opportunity to attend such deposition. Such deposition testimony is subject to the same standard of admissibility as other evidence.

Objections to the admissibility of evidence must be timely made. All rulings on objections shall appear on the record. A failure to object to the admission of evidence shall constitute a waiver of the objection.

Section _____.37 Proposed findings and conclusions.

Section _____.38 Recommended decision and filing of record.

Section _____.39 Exceptions to recommended decision.

Section _____.40 Review by Agency Head.

Section _____.41 Stays pending judicial review.

These sections reflect no significant departures from the existing regulations of the Agencies.

Proposed findings and conclusions and any supporting briefs are to be submitted within 30 days after the transcript has been filed with the administrative law judge. Reply briefs are to be filed within 15 days thereafter.

Within 45 days of the time for filing reply briefs, the administrative law judge is to file with the Agency Head the record of the proceeding, including the recommended decision, findings of fact, conclusions of law, and proposed order.

The administrative law judge is also required to serve upon each party the recommended decision, findings, conclusions and proposed order. Any exceptions to the administrative law judge's recommendations are to be filed within 30 days after service of those recommendations.

The Agency Head will render its final decision within 90 days after it has notified the parties that the case has been submitted for final decision or after oral argument is held, whichever is later, unless the Agency Head remands the case to the administrative law judge for further proceedings.

E. Subpart-by-Subpart Summary and Discussion of Local Rules

1. OCC Local Rules

The Uniform Rules of administrative procedure in subpart A generally replace the procedures governing formal adjudications in 12 CFR part 19, subparts A–J. The OCC's Local Rules replace the procedures in subparts K–O of part 19 concerning certain formal and informal adjudications, practice before the OCC, and formal investigations. The text of subparts C, D, E, J, and K corresponds to the text of subparts K, M, L, N, and O, respectively, in the current part 19. In the event of inconsistency with the provisions of subpart A, the Local Rules will govern. The Local Rules also provide additional rules applicable to formal adjudications, discovery depositions, and other document filing with the OCC.

Subpart B—Filings With the Comptroller

This is a new provision which incorporates the procedures found in § 19.11. All materials to be filed with or referred to the Comptroller or the administrative law judge under part 19 are to be filed with the Hearing Clerk. This does not include requests for document discovery or responses to such requests because these documents are not required to be filed with the administrative law judge or the Comptroller. However, motions to limit discovery or to compel production would be filed with the Hearing Clerk because these documents are to be filed with the administrative law judge.

Subpart C—Removals, Suspensions, and Prohibitions When a Crime is Charged or a Conviction is Obtained

This subpart applies to informal hearings afforded an institution-affiliated party who has been suspended or removed from office or prohibited from further participation in bank affairs by the Comptroller. The text of this subpart corresponds to the text of the existing subpart K, which has been incorporated into this subpart with the following changes:

a. The decisional authority of the presiding officer in § 19.113 has been revised to indicate that the officer shall issue a "recommended" decision instead of an "initial" decision. The proceedings in this subpart are informal in nature and not by statute subject to the Uniform Rules or the APA; however, in this instance, the OCC's informal procedures have been set up to parallel the Uniform Rules, which require the presiding officer to issue a recommended decision.

b. The term "OCC's interested division" is replaced with "OCC's Enforcement and Compliance Division".

c. Appropriate references to the Uniform Rules are incorporated into this subpart.

Subpart D—Exemption Hearings Under Section 12(h) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

This subpart applies to informal hearings that may be held by the Comptroller, pursuant to the authority of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, to grant certain exemptions from the securities laws. The text of this subpart corresponds to the text of the existing subpart M, which has been incorporated into this subpart with only minor changes. As in the preceding subpart, these include the revision of the authority of the presiding officer to issue a "recommended" decision and the incorporation of appropriate references to the Uniform Rules.

Subpart E—Disciplinary Proceedings Involving the Federal Securities Laws

This subpart governs formal adjudications pursuant to the authority of the Exchange Act to take disciplinary actions against banks acting as, associated with, or seeking to become associated with a municipal securities dealer, a government securities broker or dealer, or a transfer agent.

The text of this subpart corresponds to the text of the existing subpart L, which has been incorporated into this subpart with only minor changes. The proceedings shall be instituted on a public basis. Pursuant to § 19.33 of subpart A, a request for a private hearing may be filed within 20 days of service of the notice of assessment. Except as provided in this subpart, the Uniform Rules in subpart A will apply to these proceedings.

Subpart F—Civil Money Penalty Authority under the Securities Laws

This subpart governs formal adjudications pursuant to the authority of section 21B of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78u–2), as added by section 202 of the Securities Enforcement Remedies and Penny Stock Reform Act of 1990 (Pub. L. 101–429). These provisions provide for the issuance of civil money penalties against banks acting as, associated with, or seeking to become associated with a municipal securities dealer, a government securities broker or dealer, or a transfer agent.

The provisions of subpart A are applicable to these proceedings. The proceedings shall be instituted on a public basis Pursuant to § 19.33 of

subpart A, a request for a private hearing may be filed within 20 days of service of the notice of assessment.

Subpart G—Cease-and-Desist Authority Under the Securities Laws

This subpart governs informal adjudications pursuant to the authority of section 21C of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78u–3), as added by section 203 of the Securities Enforcement Remedies and Penny Stock Reform Act of 1990 (Pub. L. 101–429). These provisions provide for the issuance of cease-and-desist proceedings against a bank for violation of certain provisions of the Exchange Act.

These proceedings are not "required by statute to be determined on the record after opportunity for an agency hearing," and thus are not "formal" adjudications subject to the APA. See 5 U.S.C. 554(a). The OCC has determined, however, that these proceedings should be conducted in a manner comparable to a formal adjudication to afford affected parties with the full procedures of the APA.

The Senate report accompanying the legislation appears to contemplate that the procedures governing these proceedings would be similar to the procedures for a formal adjudication. The report calls for a hearing before an administrative law judge and compares these proceedings to the formal cease-and-desist proceedings under the banking laws (12 U.S.C. 1818(b)):

> Before the SEC may issue a permanent order, the SEC must provide a respondent with notice and opportunity for a hearing. A hearing before an administrative law judge must be set to commence no earlier than thirty days and no later than sixty days after issuance of the notice, unless the respondent consented to an earlier or later date. A respondent has the right to appeal an adverse decision by an administrative law judge to the full SEC, which considers the evidence *de novo*, the same right that respondents currently have in other SEC administrative proceedings. If the SEC affirms on appeal, the entry of a permanent cease-and-desist order may be appealed to a U.S. court of appeals in the same way as any other SEC order entered under the securities laws. This procedure is similar to that provided under the Federal Deposit Insurance Act with respect to FDIC cease-and-desist proceedings.

S. Rpt. No. 101–337, 101st Cong., 2d Sess. 19 (1990). See also H.R. Rep. No. 101–616, 101st Cong., 2d Sess. 24–25 (1990).

This subpart provides, therefore, that the provisions for formal adjudications in subpart A are applicable to these proceedings. The proceedings shall be commenced on a public basis. Pursuant to § 19.33 of subpart A, a request for a private hearing may be filed within 20 days of service of the notice of charges.

Subpart H—Change in Bank Control

This subpart governs formal adjudications under section 7(j) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)) concerning the review of a determination by the Comptroller disapproving an application to acquire control of a national bank.

Upon the issuance of the OCC's written disapproval of a change-in-control application, the applicant may file a written request for a hearing within ten days after service of the notice of disapproval. To preserve the applicant's right to a hearing, an answer must also be filed within 20 days of the date of the notice, specifically denying those portions of the notice which are disputed. Failure to file a timely request for hearing or answer shall constitute a waiver of the opportunity for a hearing. In such a case, the notice of disapproval shall constitute a final and unappealable order.

As provided in § 19.18(a)(2) of subpart: A, change-in-control proceedings shall commence with the issuance of an order by the Comptroller. This hearing order shall set forth the OCC's jurisdictional authority over the proceeding and shall address the applicant's request for hearing. Except as provided in this subpart, the Uniform Rules in subpart A will apply to these proceedings.

Subpart I—Discovery Depositions and Subpoenas

Discovery Depositions. This subpart provides that a party may take the deposition of an expert or of another person, including another party, who has direct knowledge of matters that are non-privileged, relevant, and material to the proceeding and where there is a need for the deposition. While permitting the depositions of experts and persons having direct knowledge of the matters at issue in a proceeding, this provision is not intended to allow unlimited deposition discovery or the taking of senior Agency officials' depositions, unless those individuals have direct knowledge about the facts of the case. Rather, it is intended to permit limited deposition discovery of experts and persons having direct knowledge of the facts who may be called on to testify at the administrative hearing.

Prior to taking a deposition, a party must give notice in writing to every other party to the proceeding. All discovery depositions must be completed within ten days of the scheduled hearing date, except with the permission of the administrative law judge for good cause shown.

During a deposition, each party shall have the right to examine the witness with respect to all non-privileged, relevant, and material matters. Failure to object to questions or exhibits shall not be deemed a waiver except where the grounds for the objection might have been avoided if the objection had been timely presented.

At any time after a party receives notice of a deposition, that party may file a motion for a protective order prohibiting, terminating, or limiting the scope or manner of the taking of a deposition. The administrative law judge shall grant such protective order upon a showing of sufficient grounds, including that the deposition: is unreasonable, oppressive, excessive in scope, or unduly burdensome; involves privileged, irrelevant, or immaterial matters; involves unwarranted attempts to pry into a party's preparation for trial; or is being conducted in bad faith or in such manner as to unreasonably annoy, embarrass, or oppress the witness.

Deposition Subpoenas. This subpart also provides that at the request of a party, the administrative law judge shall issue a subpoena requiring the attendance of a witness at a deposition. The party requesting the subpoena is responsible for serving it on the person named therein, or on that person's counsel. The person named in the subpoena may file a motion to quash or modify the subpoena within the time for compliance set forth in the subpoena, but in no case later than ten days after the date of service. If the subpoena is served within 15 days of the hearing, the person named in the subpoena must file a motion to quash or modify the subpoena within five days after the date of service.

Subpart J—Formal Investigations

This subpart and the conflict of interest provision of the Uniform Rules (§ 19.8 of subpart A) shall apply to formal investigations initiated by order of the Comptroller or the Comptroller's delegate, pursuant to the authority of the banking laws and the Exchange Act. The text of this subpart corresponds to the text of the existing subpart N, which has been incorporated into this subpart with minor modifications to reference the Uniform Rules.

Subpart K—Parties and Representational Practice Before the OCC: Standards of Conduct

This subpart sets forth rules relating to parties and representational practice before the OCC, including the imposition of disciplinary sanctions against individuals who appear before the OCC in a representational capacity in an adjudicatory proceeding under this part

or in other matters relating to a client's rights, privileges, or liabilities. The text of this subpart corresponds to the text of the existing subpart 0, which has been incorporated into this subpart with minor modifications to reference the Uniform Rules and to clarify the scope of the proceedings.

Subpart L—Equal Access to Justice Act

This subpart references the regulations governing Equal Access to Justice claims with respect to OCC formal adjudicatory proceedings.

2. Board of Governors Local Rules

In addition to the amendments to part 263 effected by the Uniform Rules, the Board of Governors (or "Board" in the Local Rules) proposes to make complementary amendments to part 263 which supplement the Uniform Rules (proposed subpart B), readopt portions of the current part 263 (proposed subparts C, D and E) and add new procedures to the Board's rules of practice (proposed subparts F and G).

Subpart B—Board of Governors Local Rules Supplementing the Uniform Rules

This subpart B adopts the Uniform Rules for all formal adjudications conducted by the Board, including the use of the Office of Financial Institution Adjudication in all formal proceedings. Proposed subpart B also supplements the Uniform Rules by providing for issues specific to the Board, such as definitions and addresses for filing papers and documents with the Board.

This subpart also includes amendments to the Board's rules for discovery by deposition in formal adjudicatory proceedings. In brief, the Board proposes that a party may depose an individual with knowledge of facts material and relevant to the underlying proceeding, who, in most cases, would be a prospective witness in a hearing. A party seeking to take a deposition must apply to the administrative law judge for the issuance of a subpoena, and any party may oppose such a request. Should a subpoena be issued, the person named in the subpoena may seek to have the subpoena quashed or modified. Any party or the deponent may also seek a protective order to guard against abusive or burdensome depositions. The Board believes that the judicious use of depositions of prospective witnesses will enhance the discovery process and will lead to the satisfactory settlement of actions before commencement of the hearing. The administrative law judge has the plenary authority to control the conduct of administrative proceedings, including discovery, and it is expected that such authority will be exercised to ensure that discovery depositions are used properly and not for harassment or delay.

Subpart C—Procedures for Assessment of Civil Money Penalties

This proposed subpart adopts certain provisions of existing subpart B relating to the opportunity for informal proceedings and the relevant considerations in assessing fines. This subpart also provides that the Board, in any final order of assessment, may set the penalty at an amount that differs from that established in a notice of assessment.

Subpart D—Rules and Procedures Applicable to Suspension or Removal of an Institution-Affiliated Party Where a Felony is Charged or Proven

Except for minor changes noted below, this subpart, which governs suspension and removals under section 8(g) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1818(g)), is readopted from the current part 263. Proposed subpart D has been modified by replacing the term "bank official" with the term "institution-affiliated party."

Subpart E—Procedures for Issuance and Enforcement of Directives to Maintain Adequate Capital

Proposed subpart E implements the capital directive provisions of the International Lending Supervision Act of 1983 (12 U.S.C. 3901 *et seq.*). Subpart E is readopted from the current Part 263, except that it eliminates the now-moot requirement found in current § 263.38(a) and amends the references to the now-applicable Capital Adequacy Guidelines of the Board of Governors.

Subpart F—Practice Before the Board

This subpart contains provisions for the discipline of practitioners before the Board supplementing the proceeding-specific sanctions contained in subpart A. This subpart represents a significant expansion of the Board's existing rules regarding practice before the Board now set forth in § 263.3(b). The proposed rule defines practice broadly to include not only the representation of parties in administrative enforcement proceedings, but the representation of parties in the Board's application and licensing process.

The proposed rule authorizes the Board to censure, suspend or debar an individual from practice before the Board under specified circumstances. For example, the Board could take disciplinary actions against a practitioner if such person engaged in conduct set forth in § 263.94, refused to comply with the procedures set forth in part 263, or willfully or knowingly deceived or misled any client. The kind of conduct set forth in § 263.94 that could give rise to a disciplinary proceeding include willful violations of Federal banking laws, knowingly giving false or misleading information to the Board or any member of the Board's staff, disbarment or suspension from practice as an attorney or accountant by the appropriate authority based on a criminal conviction, or suspension or debarment of practice before the other agencies, or the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Under proposed § 263.95, the Board, at its option, may act upon information that could form the basis of a disciplinary proceeding. The Board may, without any further proceeding, censure the individual involved in the misconduct. The Board may, after giving the individual notice and an opportunity to respond, initiate a formal proceeding, which, in most cases, will be private. Under proposed § 263.96, an individual charged with misconduct may choose to forgo his or her right to a hearing and voluntarily agree to a suspension or debarment.

Proposed § 263.98 sets forth the effect of the various types of disciplinary orders that the Board may issue. A person who has been debarred cannot practice before the Board unless the individual is otherwise permitted by the Board. Suspension orders are effective for a defined term, during which the suspended person cannot practice before the Board. A censure order will not bar an individual from practice before the Board, although such practice must conform to any conditions imposed by the Board. The Board will grant a petition for reinstatement from any debarred person only when the Board finds that the petitioner will act in accordance with the appropriate standards of conduct and that reinstatement is not contrary to the public interest. Section 263.99 provides that a request for reinstatement will be limited to written submissions unless the Board orders an informal hearing.

These proposed rules, while new to the Board, resemble rules that have been adopted in varying forms by the other banking agencies and by other Federal agencies. The Board contemplates applying these disciplinary sanctions only in egregious cases of misconduct in practice before the Board, and after the practitioner has had an opportunity for a formal hearing.

Subpart G—Rules Regarding Claims Under the Equal Access to Justice Act

This subpart implements the provisions of the Equal Access to Justice Act, 5 U.S.C. 504. The proposed regulation establishes eligibility standards for an award, the required contents of an application for an award, including the required statement of net worth, standards for the reasonableness of claimed fees, and procedures for adjudicating an application for an award.

3. FDIC Local Rules

Subpart B—General Rules of Procedure

Section 308.100, "Definitions", defines the term "Board of Directors" and "designee" of the Board of Directors ("Board"). The term "designee of the Board of Directors" means officers or officials of the FDIC who have been delegated authority to act on behalf of the Board under section 303 of the FDIC's regulations, or by separate resolution of the Board. The term "Executive Secretary", pertaining to the Executive Secretary of the FDIC, is defined to include his or her designee. The definitions of these terms apply to their use in subpart A of part 308, which incorporates the Uniform Rules, and subparts B through P of part 308.

Section 308.101, "Scope of Local Rules," makes clear that the rules contained in subpart A, "Uniform Rules", and subpart B, "General Rules of Procedure", of part 308 do not apply to subparts D through P of part 308 unless specifically provided. Subpart C, "Rules of Practice Before the FDIC and Standards of Conduct" shall apply to any proceeding initiated by the FDIC under part 308.

Section 308.102, "Authority of Board of Directors and Executive Secretary", makes explicit that the Board may perform, direct the performance of, or waive the performance of any act which could be done or ordered by the Executive Secretary. This is in addition to the power to do such with regard to any act that could be performed by the administrative law judge. The rule provides that the Executive Secretary shall have the ability to act in place of the administrative law judge but may not hear a case on the merits or make a recommended decision.

Section 308.103, "Appointment of administrative law judge", contains the procedures by which the appointment of an administrative law judge will be accomplished. It provides that all hearings within the scope of part 308 shall be held before an administrative law judge of OFIA unless the Board directs otherwise, or unless the Local Rules specifically provide to the contrary. The Executive Secretary shall immediately upon the issuance of a Notice, refer a proceeding to OFIA for the appointment of the administrative law judge. OFIA shall then advise the parties when a judge has been appointed. This differs from current practice insofar as an administrative law judge is not now appointed until after a respondent requests a hearing. It also reflects the establishment of OFIA as the appointing body rather than the Executive Secretary.

Sections 308.104 and 308.105 address housekeeping matters concerning maintenance of the record and the filing of papers. Section 308.104, "Filing with the Board of Directors", makes clear that any papers required to be filed with the Board should be filed with the Executive Secretary at the stated address. Such filings include the record in the case which is to be filed with the Executive Secretary following the issuance of a recommended decision; the recommended decision filed by the administrative law judge after a motion for summary disposition; referrals by the administrative law judge to the Board for interlocutory review; motions filed by the parties after the record has been certified to the Board; exceptions and requests for oral argument; and any other papers required to be filed with the Board under part 308. This reflects the approach stated in § 308.105 that the Executive Secretary will be the official custodian of the record in a case, except when the administrative law judge has jurisdiction over the case.

Section 308.105, "Custodian of the record", makes clear that the Executive Secretary is the official custodian of the record at all times during which the administrative law judge does not have jurisdiction in the case.

Section 308.106, "Written testimony in lieu of oral hearing", preserves current practice at the FDIC, which authorizes hearings in which most, or all, of the direct testimony is presented in written form. Absent objection by a party, the administrative law judge may order that the parties present their cases in chief and rebuttal in the form of exhibits and written statements sworn to by the witness offering the evidence. Any such order shall also allow any party to call adverse witnesses or parties to testify orally, and shall provide for a right to cross examination. Written testimony on direct, exhibits, and rebuttal are to be simultaneously submitted by the parties. The failure of any party to submit written testimony pursuant to such an order is deemed to be a waiver of that party's right to present evidence, except the testimony of a previously identified hostile witness or adverse party. A party's failure to present rebuttal evidence in written form, if not so specifically ordered, is not waived by that party's failure to file written testimony. Late filings may be allowed and accepted only for good cause shown.

Section 308.107, "Document discovery", provides that unless expressly provided in specific subparts, discovery may be had only through the production of documents, and no other form of discovery shall be allowed. Questioning of persons providing documents pursuant to a subpoena shall be limited to the identification of such documents and a reasonable examination as to whether such person conducted an adequate search for and produced all subpoenaed documents. This is the current practice of the FDIC.

Subpart C—Rules of Practice Before the FDIC and Standards of Conduct

Section 308.108, "Sanctions," is included in revised subpart C to make clear that administrative law judges and the Board of Directors have authority to effectively deal with the significant problem of parties and their counsel failing to comply with the requirements of part 308 and/or with orders. Under § 308.108(a), sanctions may be imposed when any counsel or party has acted in a manner contrary to any applicable statute, regulation, or order, and the party's or counsel's conduct is contemptuous or has materially injured or prejudiced some other party.

Sanctions imposed in accordance with § 308.108(b) may include one or more of the following: (1) Issuing an order against the party; (2) striking any testimony, rejecting any documentary evidence offered, or striking papers filed by the party; (3) precluding the party from contesting specific issues; (4) precluding the party from challenging certain evidence offered by another party; (5) refusing a late filing or conditioning acceptance of a late filing on any terms that are just; and (6) assessing reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees, incurred by the other party as a result of the offending party's improper action or inaction.

Under § 308.108(c), dismissal of an action as a sanction for the failure to hold a hearing within the time period specified in part 308 or based upon the failure of an administrative law judge to render a recommended decision within the time period specified in Part 308 may only be granted if the delay is solely the result of the conduct of the FDIC enforcement counsel, that conduct is unexcused, the moving respondent took

all reasonable steps to oppose and prevent the delay, the respondent has been materially prejudiced or injured, and no lesser or different sanction is adequate.

Paragraph (d) of § 308.108 sets out the general procedure for the imposition of sanctions. The administrative law judge may impose sanctions on his or her own motion or at the request of any party. Prior to their imposition, all sanctions, except the refusal to accept late papers, require notice to the parties and opportunity for counsel or the party against whom sanctions would be imposed to be heard. The form that the opportunity to be heard shall take is largely left to the discretion of the administrative law judge. For example, the opportunity to be heard may be limited to an oral response immediately after the violative action or inaction is noted by the administrative law judge. Requests for, and the imposition of, sanctions are to be treated for interlocutory review purposes in the same manner as any other ruling by the administrative law judge, i.e., in accordance with § 308.28 of the Uniform Rules.

Section 308.109, "Suspension and Disbarment," authorizes summary suspension from practice in a particular FDIC matter based upon contemptuous conduct in that matter. Section 308.109 of the proposed regulations provides for mandatory and automatic suspension and disbarment of attorneys under certain circumstances and gives the Board of Directors discretion to suspend and disbar under other circumstances.

Under § 308.109(a), the Board of Directors has the power to suspend or revoke an attorney's privilege of practicing before the FDIC based not only on a finding by the Board of Directors that the attorney engaged in contemptuous conduct before the agency, but also upon a finding that the attorney does not possess the requisite qualifications to represent others, is seriously lacking in integrity or has engaged in material unethical or improper professional conduct, or has engaged in or aided another in engaging in a material and knowing violation of the FDIA. The Board may suspend or revoke the privilege to practice before the FDIC on these grounds only after notice of and opportunity for a hearing.

Once suspended or disbarred from practice before the FDIC by the Board pursuant to § 308.109(a), a counsel may not make an application for reinstatement for at least three years, and thereafter may make a new request for reinstatement no sooner than one year after the counsel's most recent reinstatement application. A counsel may be reinstated by the Board for good cause shown.

Under § 308.109(b) a party's counsel is automatically suspended or disbarred if he or she is suspended or disbarred by any court of the United States or by the OCC, the Board of Governors, the OTS, the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. A person who has within the past ten years been convicted of a felony, or of a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude, is also automatically suspended from practicing before the FDIC.

Reinstatement after a suspension or disbarment under § 308.109(b) may be made by the Executive Secretary if all grounds for suspension are subsequently removed by a reversal of the conviction or termination of the underlying suspension or disbarment. An application for reinstatement under § 308.109(b) on any other grounds may be filed at any time not less than one year after the applicant's most recent application. Until the Board has reinstated the applicant for good cause shown, the suspension shall continue.

An applicant for reinstatement under either the discretionary or mandatory suspension and disbarment provisions may, in the Board's sole discretion, be afforded a hearing. Hearings conducted pursuant to this section shall be handled in the same manner as other hearings under this subpart C, except that in proceedings to terminate an existing FDIC suspension or disbarment order, the person seeking the termination shall bear the burden of going forward with the application and with proof, and provided that the Board of Directors may limit any such hearings to written submissions.

Finally, § 308.109(d) of the proposed regulations provides that any counsel found in contempt by the administrative law judge may be summarily suspended from participation in that proceeding.

Preamble to Subparts D–P

Subparts D–P contain rules and procedures that govern specific types of formal and informal proceedings conducted by the FDIC. Generally, revisions made to these subparts are either clarifying in nature or were made to conform the subparts to, or avoid overlaps with, the Uniform Rules.

Subpart D—Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings Relating to Disapproval of Acquisition of Control

Subpart D governs proceedings in connection with the disapproval of a proposed acquisition of control of an insured nonmember bank. Various changes made to subpart D were made to make this subpart consistent with the Uniform Rules. A new section, § 308.114, was added to this subpart on procedures relating to disapproval of acquisition of control. That section provides that the person proposing to acquire control of an insured depository institution shall bear the ultimate burden of persuasion and that the FDIC has the burden of going forward with a *prima facie* case. This accords with section 556(d) of the APA (5 U.S.C. 556(d)), which states "Except as otherwise provided by statute, the proponent of the rule or order has the burden of proof." Courts have interpreted this section as imposing the burden of proof in licensing or applications cases upon the applicant. *See Savage* v. *Commodities Futures Trading Commission*, 548 F.2d 192 (7th Cir. 1977). The FDIC has adopted this position in *In the Matter of Peder D. Sletteland*, 2 P–H FDIC Enf. Dec. & Ord. ¶ 5152, at p. A–1518.

Subpart E—Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings Relating to Assessments of Civil Penalties for Willful Violations of the Change in Bank Control Act

Subpart E governs proceedings relating to assessments of civil penalties for willful violations of the Change in Bank Control Act. This subpart has been revised in order to comply with the changes to these provisions made by FIRREA and to make this subpart consistent with the Uniform Rules.

Subpart F—Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings for Involuntary Termination of Insured Status

Subpart F governs proceedings for the involuntary termination of insured status. This type of action is to be conducted according to the Uniform Rules. Similar to the preceding subparts, this subpart has been changed to make the provisions conform with the changes to the FDIA made by FIRREA. This includes changing the time frames to correspond with those of FIRREA, substituting the term, "insured depository institution," for that of "insured bank" and describing the notification to primary regulator and the notice of intent to terminate insured status.

Subpart G—Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings Relating to Cease-and-Desist Orders

Subpart G governs proceedings relating to cease-and-desist orders. The changes in subpart G were made for purposes of clarity and to make changes to the provisions as mandated by the

amendments to the FDIA made by FIRREA.

Subpart H—Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings Relating to Assessment and Collection of Civil Penalties for the Violation of Cease-and-Desist Orders and of Certain Federal Statutes

Subpart H governs proceedings relating to assessment and collections of civil money penalties for the violation of cease-and-desist orders and of certain Federal statutes. Several sections of old subpart H have been deleted as being redundant with provisions of the Uniform Rules and other provisions, including those concerning call report penalties, have been added to reflect the changes made by FIRREA.

Subpart I—Rules and Procedures for Imposition of Sanctions Upon Municipal Securities Dealers or Persons Associated With Them and Clearing Agencies or Transfer Agents

Subpart I governs procedures for the imposition of sanctions upon municipal securities dealers or persons associated with them and clearing agencies or transfer agents. There have been minor modifications made in this subpart in order to make the provisions herein consistent with the Uniform Rules.

Subpart J—Rules and Procedures Relating to Exemption Proceedings Under Section 12(h) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Subpart J governs exemption proceedings under section 12(h) of the Exchange Act. Like subpart J, there have been minor structural changes in order to make these provisions consistent with the Uniform Rules.

Subpart K—Procedures Applicable to Investigations Pursuant to Section 10(c) of the FDIA

Subpart K governs procedures applicable to investigations pursuant to section 10(c) of the FDIA. The provisions are designed to spell out the scope of the FDIC's authority under 10(c) of the FDIA to conduct investigations of both open and failed insured banks, institutions making applications to become insured banks, and any other types of investigations. The provisions make specific certain of the procedures to be used during such investigations.

Section 308.144, "Scope," indicates that the FDIC's investigatory power under section 10(c) of the FDIA extends to both open and failed insured banks.

Section 308.145, "Order to conduct investigation," has been modified to state that persons authorized to issue orders of investigation are set forth in part 303. The order of investigation indicates the purpose of the investigation and that the persons who authorized the investigation terminate it upon completion.

Section 308.146, "Powers of Person Conducting Investigation," spells out the Board's authority to summarily suspend for contemptuous conduct any counsel representing a witness during the investigation. This section also has made explicit that the person conducting the investigation may obtain assistance from others both within and outside the FDIC.

Section 308.148, "Rights of Witnesses," spells out that a witness is to be furnished with a copy of the order of investigation if the witness so requests.

Subpart L—Procedures and Standards Applicable to a Notice of Change in Senior Executive Officer or Director Pursuant to Section 32 of the FDIA

Subpart L governs proceedings for the disapproval of candidates for senior executive officer and director. Modifications in this subpart include re-designating the appeal procedures in §§ 308.153 and 308.154 and labeling them "request for review," as well as making these provisions consistent with the Uniform Rules. Under § 308.155, an applicant is given an opportunity for an oral hearing. The hearing is conceived as an informal proceeding where a presiding officer determines whether to allow the presentation of witnesses. No discovery is permitted; however, an applicant may introduce relevant and material documents on the record. Like the provisions on change-in-control proceedings in subpart D, the ultimate burden of persuasion in § 308.155(b) is imposed upon the candidate for director or senior executive officer for the same rationale, and the FDIC has the burden of going forward with its *prima facie* case.

Subpart M—Procedures and Standards Applicable to an Application Pursuant to Section 19 of the FDIA

Subpart M governs proceedings for applications under section 19 of the FDIA. This subpart has been revised in order to comply with the changes to section 19 made by FIRREA and the Comprehensive Thrift and Bank Fraud Prosecution and Taxpayer Recovery Act of 1990, and to make this subpart consistent with the Uniform Rules. Section 308.158(b) of subpart M permits the filing of a section 19 application at any time more than one year after the issuance of a decision denying an application filed pursuant to section 19. Under § 308.160, an applicant is given an opportunity for an oral hearing. The hearing is conceived as an informal proceeding where a presiding officer determines whether to allow the presentation of witness. No discovery is permitted; however, an applicant may introduce relevant and material documents on the record. Like the provisions for the change-in-control proceedings and the procedures for section 32 of the FDIA, the burden of proof in § 308.160(b) has been shifted to the applicant, and the FDIC has the burden of going forward with its *prima facie* case.

Subpart N—Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceeding Relating to Suspension, Removal, and Prohibition Where a Felony is Charged

Subpart N governs proceedings for suspension, removal, and prohibition pursuant to section 8(g) of the FDIA where a felony is charged. The changes in subpart N were made for purposes of clarity and to make changes to the provisions as mandated by the amendments to the FDIA made by FIRREA. Consistent with other proceedings in which a presiding officer makes recommended decisions to the Board of Directors, there is no discovery in proceedings conducted under this subpart.

Subpart O—Liability of Commonly-Controlled Depository Institutions

Subpart O is a new subpart of part 308 and governs proceedings pertaining to section 5(e) of the FDIA. The procedures set forth herein reflect those that have been used by the FDIC under current part 308 since the passage of section 5(e) of the FDIA.

Section 308.165, "Scope", states that, in addition to the procedures set forth in this subpart, the procedures in subpart B shall apply to proceedings in connection with the assessment of cross guaranty liability against commonly-controlled institutions. Section 308.166, "Grounds for assessment of liability", restates the statutory requirements for the assessment of liability.

Section 308.167, "Notice of Assessment of Liability", sets forth the matters that must be contained in the Notice of Assessment of Liability, including the basis for the FDIC's jurisdiction; a statement of the FDIC's good faith estimate of the amount of loss that it has incurred or anticipates incurring; a statement of the method used to calculate such loss; a proposed order directing the payment by the liable institution of the amount of loss and the schedule under which the payment will be due; and, in cases in which more than

one liable institution is involved, each institution's share of the liability. Furthermore, the Notice must advise the liable institution(s) that an answer and a request for a hearing must be filed within 20 days of the service of the Notice, and that failure to timely file both an answer and request a hearing will render the Notice of Assessment a final and unappealable order. Finally, the Notice must state that, if a hearing is requested, such hearing will be held 120 days after service of the Notice in the judicial district where the liable institution is located; or in cases involving more than one liable institution, the hearing will be held in the judicial district in which at least one of the institutions is found.

Section 308.168, "Effective date of and payment under an order to pay", makes clear that the payment of the assessed amount shall be due on or before the 21st day after service of the Notice of Assessment in accordance with the terms and schedule set forth therein. Where any Order to Pay has become final and unappealable by reason of default under § 308.19(d)—which provides that failure to both file an answer and request a hearing within the time limits provided by this subpart shall render the Notice of Assessment final and unappealable—payment shall automatically be deemed to have become due and payable upon service of the Order to Pay, or as otherwise stated therein. All payments collected under section 5(e) of the FDIA are to be paid to the FDIC.

Subpart P—Rules and Procedures Relating to the Recovery of Attorney Fees and Other Expenses

Subpart P governs proceedings relating to the recovery of attorney fees and other expenses under the Equal Access to Justice Act, 5 U.S.C. 504. The revisions to this subpart are minor and are made to make this subpart conform to the Uniform Rules.

Regulatory Factors

Part 308 was selected for review under FDIC's Regulation Review Program (see 50 FR 14247, April 22, 1985). This revised part 308 is a result of the review conducted.

4. OTS Local Rules

In addition to the uniform hearing rules proposed today, OTS proposes additional procedures and rules of practice for OTS adjudicatory proceedings. These include applying the uniform rules to OTS-specific proceedings (§ 509.100), allowing the use of depositions in discovery (§ 509.102), providing further clarification for the assessment and collection of civil money penalties (§ 509.103) and providing further procedural guidance (§ 509.104). OTS is also proposing several conforming amendments to modify cross references and to delete nonexistent terms.

Section 509.100 Scope

The three types of proceedings added by this provision are currently covered by part 509; however, they are not proceedings common to four of the five agencies and did not qualify for inclusion in the uniform rules. Accordingly, they are listed in the OTS scope.

Section 509.101 Appointment of OFIA.

Currently, OTS does not employ its own administrative law judges and must borrow such judges from other federal agencies pursuant to the requirements of the Office of Personnel Management. Section 916 of FIRREA also requires the five federal regulatory agencies to jointly create a pool of administrative law judges. Creation of the Office of Financial Institution Adjudication implements this portion of FIRREA. As the time frame for creation of OFIA is the same as for the promulgation of the Uniform Rules, modification of OTS procedures to reflect OFIA is appropriate.

Section 509.102 Deposition Discovery.

OTS proposes to change its procedures to permit the use of depositions in discovery in certain situations. This section provides that a party may take the deposition of an expert or another person, including another party, who has direct knowledge of matters that are non-privileged, relevant and material to the proceeding. The scope of the questioning is limited to those matters that the witness has factual, direct and personal knowledge. Depositions of experts are limited to those experts who will testify at the hearing.

These standards for depositions are intentionally narrower than those provided in Rule 26 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The use of depositions in discovery pursuant to this section is not intended to reach persons whose testimony may lead to discoverable information or material. In this manner the proposed rule is significantly more restrictive than the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

In addition, this limitation is intended to discourage attempts to depose Agency personnel who have no direct, factual knowledge of a proceeding. This means that those Agency employees who have not participated directly or personally in the examination process or direct supervision of savings associations would not qualify under the scope limitation unless they are substantially and materially involved. This means that the senior management officials of the Agency, including, but not limited to, the Director, the Chief Counsel, the Deputy Director for Washington Operations, the Deputy Director for Regional Operations, and Regional and District Directors of OTS or persons in equivalent or similar positions are not considered relevant or material witnesses for deposition discovery purposes. By limiting deposition discovery in this manner, OTS believes that it will serve the interests of justice without unduly handicapping its ability to conduct the business of the agency.

The procedures for deposition discovery require a party, prior to taking a deposition, to give notice in writing to the deponent and to every other party to the proceeding. All discovery depositions must be completed within ten days of the scheduled hearing date, except with the permission of the administrative law judge for good cause shown.

During a deposition, each party shall have the right to examine the witness with respect to all non-privileged, relevant, and material matters for which the witness has factual, direct and personal knowledge. Failure to object to questions or exhibits shall not be deemed a waiver except where the grounds for the objection might have been avoided if the objection had been timely presented.

At any time after a party receives notice of a deposition, that party may file a motion for a protective order prohibiting, terminating, or limiting the scope of manner of the taking of a deposition. The administrative law judge shall grant such protective order upon a showing of sufficient grounds, including that the deposition: is unreasonable, oppressive, excessive in scope, or unduly burdensome; involves privileged, investigatory, trial preparation, irrelevant or immaterial matters; or is being conducted in bad faith or in such manner as to unreasonably annoy, embarrass, or oppress the witness.

The section also provides that at the request of a party, the administrative law judge shall issue a subpoena requiring the attendance of a witness at a deposition. The party requesting the subpoena is responsible for serving it on the person named therein, or on that person's counsel. The person named in the subpoena or a party may file a

motion to quash or modify the subpoena within the time for compliance set forth in the subpoena, but in no case later than ten days after the date of service. If the subpoena is served within 25 days of the scheduled date of the hearing, the motion to quash or modify the subpoena must be filed within five days after the date of service. Enforcement of the subpoena is the same as provided in subpart A at § 509.27(d).

Section 509.103 Civil Money Penalties

The proposed provision updates existing provisions in subpart B of 509 and affirmatively states the long held OTS position as to the remedial nature of civil money penalties.

Section 509.104 Additional Procedures

This proposed section adds further clarification or guidance to the uniform rules. Paragraph (a) provides for the filing of replies to written exceptions to an administrative law judge recommended decision. It is OTS's experience that replies to exceptions assist in the final determination; however, they should not be used to further prolong the proceeding. Accordingly, a 10 day period to file replies is provided.

Paragraph (b) emphasizes that all motions are to be filed with the administrative law judge; however, upon certification of the proceeding to the Agency Head, motions are filed with OTS during a limited ten-day time period. This limited period of time for filing motions coincides with the time for filing replies to written exceptions. Failure to file within this ten day time period will provide a basis for denying the motion.

Relatedly, paragraph (c) states expressly what has been an implied power of the administrative law judge to deny dispositive motions including motions to dismiss for lack of jurisdiction. Because most often such motions may be dismissed readily for lack of merit, clarifying the administrative law judge's authority in this area will prevent such motions from delaying proceedings.

Paragraph (d) proposes to set a time by which OTS will notify the parties of the submission of the proceeding for final determination. This will clarify when the 90 day period for final determination begins.

Paragraph (e) proposes to clarify the ability of the Director to extend the time for final determination in accord with *Saratoga Savings & Loan Ass'n* v. *Fed. Home Loan Bank Board*, 879 F.2d 689 (9th Cir. 1989). The Director may extend the time provided by signing the order for such extension. Notification of the extension is to be made after the order has been signed, but the notification of the extension is not required to be within the 90 day period.

Paragraph (f) clarifies existing practices at OTS to allow designated individuals or offices to receive adjudicatory filings. The proposed provision grants OTS greater flexibility to reflect its current structure and to meet changing personnel demands rather than limiting the provision to one particular office.

Paragraph (g) also clarifies the powers of the administrative law judge concerning the presence of electronic media at public hearings. It reserves for the Agency Head of OTS the decision whether to allow the presence of electronic media; however, the administrative law judge maintains the authority to conduct the hearing and set general guidelines over the time, place and manner for attendance at hearings as set forth in § 509.5(10).

The remaining proposed amendments are technical amendments to conform cross-referenced sections and to delete obsolete terms.

5. NCUA Local Rules

Subpart A sets forth Uniform Rules of practice and procedure required by FIRREA to be implemented by the five Agencies. The Uniform Rules comprehensively govern the conduct of administrative hearings required by the APA to be held on the record. The Uniform Rules replace the NCUA's own rules of practice and procedure contained in the existing subpart A.

In addition, the Uniform Rules govern the conduct of administrative hearings addressing actions by the NCUA to issue a cease-and-desist order, to assess civil penalties, and to prohibit, remove or suspend credit union officials. Because the Uniform Rules incorporate the functions of the existing subparts C, D and E pertaining to these types of actions, the new subpart A replaces these existing subparts.

Finally, the provisions of the Uniform Rules supplement the rules and procedures prescribed in the new subparts C, E, and I, which provide for formal adjudications, except when the new subpart A is inconsistent with those rules and procedures.

Subpart B—Local Rules of Practice and Procedure

This subpart is reserved for "Local Rules of Practice and Procedure" which the NCUA may develop in the future to apply to proceedings unique to the NCUA. Such Local Rules would augment the Uniform Rules prescribed in subpart A.

Subpart C—Local Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings for the Involuntary Termination of Insured Status

This subpart redesignates and renumbers existing subpart B governing proceedings to terminate the insured status of a credit union. Such proceedings are formal adjudications. The text of existing subpart B is imported without revision, except that its scope now incorporates the provisions of the Uniform Rules, as set forth in subpart A, to the extent they are not inconsistent with the rules and procedures of subpart C.

Subpart D—Local Rules and Procedures Applicable to Suspensions and Prohibitions Where Felony Charged

This subpart redesignates and renumbers existing subpart F, governing proceedings to suspend or prohibit from participation in the affairs of a credit union any institution-affiliated party which is charged with a felony. Such proceedings are not formal adjudications. The text of existing subpart F is imported substantially without revision. Cross-references in existing § 747.602 to certain rules of practice in existing subpart A have, due to the elimination of that subpart, been replaced in new § 747.302 with the text of the former rules. Likewise, cross-references in existing § 747.507 to § 747.602 ["Remainder of the Board of Directors"] of existing subpart E have, due to the elimination of that subpart, been replaced in new § 747.302 with the text of former § 747.507. The text of these and other provisions of new subpart D (§§ 747.302, 747.306, and 747.307) contain technical revisions to clarify and reflect that proceedings under this subpart are not formal adjudications conducted by an administrative law judge, but rather, are limited, informal proceedings conducted by a Presiding Officer designated by the Board. New subpart D does not incorporate the Uniform Rules, as set forth in subpart A, because those rules do not apply to informal adjudications.

Subpart E—Local Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings Relating to the Suspension or Revocation of Charters and to Involuntary Liquidations

This subpart redesignates and renumbers existing subpart G governing proceedings to suspend or revoke a solvent credit union's charter and to place a solvent credit union into involuntary liquidation under Title I of the FCUA. See 12 U.S.C. 1766(b)(1). Such proceedings are formal adjudications.

The text of existing subpart G is imported without revision, except that the scope of new subpart E incorporates the provisions of the Uniform Rules, as set forth in subpart A, to the extent they are not inconsistent with the rules and procedures of new subpart E. New subpart E also contains technical revisions to clarify and reflect that a hearing requested under this subpart is referred by the Board to OFIA and conducted by an administrative law judge.

Subpart F—Local Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings Relating to the Termination of Membership in the Central Liquidity Facility

This subpart redesignates existing subpart H, which is reserved for rules and procedures governing proceedings to terminate a credit union's membership in the NCUA's Central Liquidity Facility.

Subpart G—Rules and Procedures Applicable to Recovery of Attorneys Fees and other Expenses Under the Equal Access to Justice Act in Board Adjudications

This subpart redesignates and renumbers existing subpart I governing claims proceedings under the Equal Access to Justice Act. Such proceedings are formal adjudications. The text of existing subpart I is imported without revision except for the following revisions to its scope and to the eligibility and application requirements for an award. First, new § 747.601 incorporates the provisions of the Uniform Rules, as set forth in subpart A, to the extent they are not inconsistent with the rules and procedures of new subpart G. Second, paragraph (b) of existing § 747.801 has been eliminated as moot, as there is no adjudication currently pending before the NCUA which was begun prior to September 30, 1984. Third, in new § 747.602(a), the maximum net worth of an individual applicant for an award has been increased to $2 million, and the maximum net worth of an applicant who is a sole proprietor of an unincorporated business or which is a partnership, corporation, association, or public or private organization, has been increased to $7 million. These increases in maximum net worth are mandated by amendments to the Equal Access to Justice Act. Finally, in new § 747.606(c), the statement that the application and documentation requirements of subpart G are exempt from the Paperwork Reduction Act has been eliminated as superfluous. The exemption clearly applies, however, because a decade of experience with the Equal Access to Justice Act has shown that fewer than ten persons or entities in a 12-month period will be subject to the application and documentation requirements of subpart G. See 5 CFR 1320.7(c) and 1320.7(s).

Subpart H—Local Rules and Procedures Applicable to Investigations

This subpart redesignates and renumbers existing subpart J governing both formal and informal investigations conducted by the NCUA. Such investigations are not adjudicative proceedings. The text of existing subpart H is imported without revision. New subpart H does not incorporate the Uniform Rules, as set forth in subpart A, because those rules do not apply to non-adjudicative proceedings.

Subpart I—Local Rules Applicable to Formal Investigative Proceedings

This subpart redesignates and renumbers existing subpart K governing formal investigations conducted by the NCUA. Such investigations are not adjudicative proceedings. The text of existing subpart K is imported without revision. New subpart I does not incorporate the Uniform Rules, as set forth in subpart A, because those rules do not apply to non-adjudicative proceedings.

Subpart J—Local Procedures and Standards Applicable to a Notice of Change in Senior Executive Officers, Directors or Committee Members Pursuant to Section 212 of the Act

This subpart redesignates and renumbers existing subpart L governing notice to the NCUA of a change in senior executive officers, directors or committee members of a credit union. The notice procedure is not a formal adjudication. The text of existing subpart L is imported without revision. New subpart J does not incorporate the Uniform Rules, as set forth in subpart A, because those rules do not apply to non-adjudicative proceedings.

F. Regulatory Flexibility Act Statement

Pursuant to section 605(b) of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, the OCC, Board of Governors, FDIC, OTS, and NCUA, hereby independently certify that this notice of proposed uniform rule is not expected to have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. Accordingly, a regulatory flexibility analysis is not required.

This rule implements section 916 of FIRREA which requires the Federal banking agencies and the NCUA to develop a set of uniform rules and procedures for administrative hearings. The purpose of this revised regulation is to secure a just and orderly determination of administrative proceedings. Because the Agencies already have in place rules of practice and procedure, this rule should not result in an additional burden for regulated institutions. Furthermore, the rule imposes only minor burdens on all institutions, regardless of size and should not, therefore, cause a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

G. OCC and OTS Executive Order 12291 Statement

The OCC and the OTS have independently determined that this notice of proposed uniform rule does not constitute a "major rule" within the meaning of Executive Order 12291 and Treasury Department Guidelines. Accordingly, a Regulatory Impact Analysis is not required on the grounds that this notice of proposed common rule, if adopted as a final rule: (1) Would not have an annual effect on the economy of $100 million or more, (2) would not result in a major increase in the cost of financial institution operations or governmental supervision, and (3) would not have a significant adverse effect on competition (foreign and domestic), employment, investment, productivity or innovation, within the meaning of the executive order.

This rule implements section 916 of FIRREA which requires the Federal banking agencies and the NCUA to develop a set of uniform rules and procedures for administrative hearings. Because the Agencies already have in place rules of practice and procedure, these rules should not result in an additional burden for regulated institutions or in additional governmental supervision. These rules setting forth uniform standards of administrative procedure would not have a significant impact on competition or impose other significant economic burdens.

H. NCUA Executive Order 12612 Statement

This proposed rule, like the current part 747 it is replacing, will apply to all federally insured credit unions. The NCUA Board, pursuant to Executive Order 12612, has determined, however, that the proposed rule will not have a substantial direct effect on the states, on the relationship between the national government and the states, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among various levels of government. Further, the proposed rule

will not preempt provisions of state law or regulations.

I. Text of Proposed Uniform Rules (All Agencies)

The text of the proposed Uniform Rules appears below. Additionally, each Agency is adopting Local Rules to supplement the Uniform Rules.

Subpart A—Uniform Rules of Practice and Procedure

Sec.

Subpart A—Uniform Rules of Practice and Procedure

§ _____.1 Scope.

This subpart prescribes rules of practice and procedure applicable to adjudicatory proceedings as to which hearings on the record are provided for by the following statutory provisions:

(a) Cease-and-desist proceedings under section 8(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act ("FDIA") (12 U.S.C. 1818(b)) and section 206(e) of the Federal Credit Union Act ("FCUA") (12 U.S.C. 1786(e));

(b) Removal and prohibition proceedings under section 8(e) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 2828(e)), and section 206(g) of the FCUA (12 U.S.C. 1786(g));

(c) Change-in-control proceedings under section 7(j)(4) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)(4)) to determine whether the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC"), the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System ("Board of Governors"), the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency ("OCC") or the Office of Thrift Supervision ("OTS") should issue an order to approve or disapprove a person's proposed acquisition of an institution and/or institution holding company;

(d) Proceedings under section 15C(c)(2) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act") (15 U.S.C. 78o–5), to impose sanctions upon any government securities broker or dealer or upon any person associated or seeking to become associated with a government securities broker or dealer for which the FDIC, the Board of Governors, the OCC or the OTS is the appropriate Agency.

(e) Assessment of civil money penalties:

(1) *By the FDIC* against institutions, institution-affiliated parties, and certain other persons for which it is the appropriate Agency for any violation of:

(i) Sections 22(h) and 23 of the Federal Reserve Act ("FRA"), or any regulation issued thereunder, and certain unsafe or unsound practices or breaches of fiduciary duty, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1828(j);

(ii) Section 106(b) of the Bank Holding Company Act Amendments of 1970 ("BHCA Amendments of 1970"), and certain unsafe or unsound practices or breaches of fiduciary duty, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1972(2)(F);

(iii) Any provision of the Change in Bank Control Act of 1978, as amended (the "CBCA"), or any regulation or order issued thereunder, and certain unsafe or unsound practices, or breaches of fiduciary duty, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1817(j)(16);

(iv) Section 7(a)(1) of the FDIA, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1817(a)(1);

(v) Any provision of the International Lending Supervision Act of 1983 ("ILSA"), or any rule, regulation or order issued thereunder, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 3909;

(vi) Any provision of the International Banking Act of 1978 ("IBA"), or any rule, regulation or order issued thereunder, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 3108;

(vii) Certain provisions of the Exchange Act, pursuant to section 21B of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78u–2);

(viii) Section 1120 of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 ("FIRREA") (12 U.S.C. 3349), or any order or regulation issued thereunder, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 3349; and

(ix) The terms of any final or temporary order issued under section 3 of the FDIA or of any written agreement executed by the FDIC, the terms of any condition imposed in writing by the FDIC in connection with the grant of an application or request, certain unsafe or unsound practices or breaches of fiduciary duty, or any law or regulation not otherwise provided herein pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1818(i)(2);

(2) *By the Board of Governors* against institutions, institution-affiliated parties, and certain other persons for which it is the appropriate Agency for any violation of:

(i) Any provision of the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended ("BHCA"), or any order or regulation issued thereunder, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1847(b) and (d);

(ii) Sections 19, 22 and 23 of the FRA, or any regulation or order issued thereunder and certain unsafe or unsound practices or breaches of fiduciary duty, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 504 and 505;

(iii) Section 9 of the FRA pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 324;

(iv) Section 106(b) of the BHCA Amendments of 1970 and certain unsafe or unsound practices or breaches of fiduciary duty, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1972(2)(F);

(v) Any provision of the CBCA, or any regulation or order issued thereunder and certain unsafe or unsound practices or breaches of fiduciary duty, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1817(j)(16);

(vi) Any provision of ILSA, or any rule, regulation or order issued thereunder, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 3909;

(vii) Any provision of the IBA, or any rule, regulation or order issued thereunder, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 3108;

(viii) Certain provisions of the Exchange Act, pursuant to section 21B of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78u–2;

(ix) Section 1120 of FIRREA (12 U.S.C. 3349), or any order or regulation issued thereunder, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 3349; and

(x) The terms of any final or temporary order issued under section 8 of the FDIA or of any written agreement executed by the Board of Governors, the terms of any condition imposed in writing by the Board of Governors in connection with the grant of an application or request, and certain unsafe or unsound practices or breaches of fiduciary duty or law or regulation not otherwise provided herein pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1818(i)(2);

(3) *By the NCUA* against institutions and institution-affiliated parties for which it is the appropriate Agency for any violation of:

(i) Section 202 of the FCUA, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1782(a);

(ii) Section 1120 of FIRREA (12 U.S.C. 3349), or any order or regulation issued thereunder, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 3349; and

(iii) The terms of any final or temporary order issued under section 206 of the FCUA or any written agreement executed by the NCUA, any condition imposed in writing by the NCUA in connection with the grant of an application or request, certain unsafe or unsound practices or breaches of fiduciary duty, or any law or regulation not otherwise provided herein, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1786(k);

(4) *By the OCC* against institutions, institution-affiliated parties, and certain other persons for which it is the appropriate Agency for any violation of:

(i) Any provision of law referenced in 12 U.S.C. 93, or any regulation issued thereunder, and certain unsafe or unsound practices and breaches of fiduciary duty, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 93;

(ii) Sections 22 and 23 of the FRA, or any regulation issued thereunder, and certain unsafe or unsound practices and breaches of fiduciary duty, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 504 and 505;

(iii) Section 106(b) of the BHCA Amendments of 1970, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1972(2)(f);

(iv) Any provision of the CBCA, or any regulation or order issued thereunder, and certain unsafe or unsound practices and breaches of fiduciary duty, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1817(j)(16);

(v) Any provision of ILSA, or any rule, regulation or order issued thereunder, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 3909;

(vi) Any provision of the IBA, or any rule, regulation or order issued thereunder, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 3108;

(vii) Section 5211 of the Revised Statutes (12 U.S.C. 161), pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 164;

(viii) Certain provisions of the Exchange Act, pursuant to section 21B of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78u–2);

(ix) Section 1120 of FIRREA (12 U.S.C. 3349), or any order or regulation issued thereunder, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 3349; and

(x) The terms of any final or temporary order issued under section 8 of the FDIA or any written agreement executed by the OCC, the terms of any condition imposed in writing by the OCC in connection with the grant of an application or request, certain unsafe or unsound practices, breaches of fiduciary duty, or any law or regulation not otherwise provided herein, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1818(i)(2); and

(5) *By the OTS* against institutions, institution-affiliated parties, and certain other persons for which it is the appropriate Agency for any violation of:

(i) Section 5 of the Home Owners' Loan Act ("HOLA") or any regulation or order issued thereunder, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1464 (d), (s) and (v);

(ii) Section 9 of the HOLA or any regulation or order issued thereunder, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1467(d);

(iii) Section 10 of the HOLA, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1467a(i) and (r);

(iv) Any provisions of the CBCA any regulation or order issued thereunder or certain unsafe or unsound practices or breaches of fiduciary duty, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1817(j)(16);

(v) Sections 22(h) and 23 of the FRA, or any regulation issued thereunder or certain unsafe or unsound practices or breaches of fiduciary duty, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1468;

(vi) Certain provisions of the Exchange Act, pursuant to section 21B of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78u–2);

(vii) Section 1120 of FIRREA (12 U.S.C. 3349), or any order or regulation issued thereunder, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 3349; and

(viii) The terms of any final or temporary order issued or enforceable pursuant to section 8 of the FDIA or of any written agreement executed by the OTS, the terms of any conditions imposed in writing by the OTS in connection with the grant of an application or request, certain unsafe or unsound practices or breaches of fiduciary duty, or any law or regulation not otherwise provided herein pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1818(i)(2).

(f) This subpart also applies to all other adjudications required by statute to be determined on the record after opportunity for an agency hearing, unless otherwise specifically provided for in each Agency's Local Rules.

§ _____.2 Rules of construction.

For purposes of this subpart:

(a) Any term in the singular includes the plural, and the plural includes the singular, if such use would be appropriate;

(b) Any use of a masculine, feminine, or neuter gender encompasses all three, if such use would be appropriate;

(c) The term *counsel* includes a non-attorney representative; and

(d) Unless the context requires otherwise, a party's counsel of record, if any, may, on behalf of that party, take any action required to be taken by the party.

§ _____.3 Definitions.

For purposes of this subpart, unless explicitly stated to the contrary:

(a) *Administrative law judge* means one who presides at an administrative hearing under authority set forth at 5 U.S.C. 556.

(b) *Adjudicatory proceeding* means a proceeding conducted pursuant to these rules and leading to the formulation of a final order other than a regulation.

(c) *Agency* means:

(1) The FDIC in the case of a State nonmember bank (except a District bank), or a foreign bank having an insured branch;

(2) The Board of Governors in the case of any State member insured bank (except a District bank), any branch or agency of a foreign bank with respect to any provision of the FRA (12 U.S.C. 221 *et seq.*), which is made applicable under the IBA (12 U.S.C 3101 *et seq.*), any foreign bank which does not operate as an insured branch, any agency or commercial lending company other than a Federal agency, supervisory or regulatory proceedings arising from the authority given to the Board of Governors under section 7(c)(1) of the IBA (12 U.S.C. 3105(b)(1)), including such proceedings under the Depository Institutions Supervisory Act, and any bank holding company and any subsidiary of a bank holding company (other than a bank) as those terms are defined by the BHCA (12 U.S.C. 1841 *et seq.*);

(3) The NCUA in the case of any Federal credit union as defined in section 101(1) of the FCUA (12 U.S.C. 1752(1)), and any insured credit union (as defined in section 101(7) of the FCUA (12 U.S.C. 1752(7));

(4) The OCC in the case of any national banking association, any District bank, or any Federal branch or agency of a foreign bank;

(5) The OTS in the case of any savings association or any savings and loan holding company, any subsidiary (other than a bank or subsidiary of that bank) of a savings and loan holding company, any service corporation of a savings association, and any subsidiary of such

service corporation, whether wholly or partly owned.

(d) *Agency Head* means:

(1) In the case of the FDIC, the Board of Directors of the FDIC, or its designee;

(2) In the case of the Board of Governors, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System or its designee;

(3) In the case of the NCUA, the National Credit Union Administration Board, or its designee;

(4) In the case of the OCC, the Comptroller of the Currency or his or her designee; and

(5) In the case of the OTS, the Director of OTS or his or her designee.

(e) *Decisional employee* means any member of the Agency's or administrative law judge's staff who has not engaged in an investigative or prosecutorial role in a proceeding and who may assist the Agency or the administrative law judge, respectively, in preparing orders, recommended decisions, decisions, and other documents under the Uniform Rules.

(f) *Enforcement Counsel* means any individual who files a notice of appearance as counsel on behalf of the Agency in an adjudicatory proceeding.

(g) *Final order* means an order issued by the Agency with or without the consent of the affected institution or the institution-affiliated party, that has become final, without regard to the pendency of any petition for reconsideration or review.

(h) *Institution* includes:

(1) Any bank as that term is defined in section 3(a) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1813(a));

(2) Any bank holding company or any subsidiary (other than a bank) of a bank holding company as those terms are defined in the BHCA (12 U.S.C. 1841 *et seq*);

(3) Any Federal credit union as that term is defined in section 101(1) of the FCUA (12 U.S.C. 1752(1));

(4) Any insured state credit union as that term is defined in section 101(7) of the FCUA (12 U.S.C 1752(7));

(5) Any savings association as that term is defined in section 3(b) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1813(b)), any savings and loan holding company or any subsidiary thereof (other than a bank) as those terms are defined in section 10(a) of the HOLA (12 U.S.C. 1467(a));

(6) Any organization operating under section 25 of the FRA (12 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*);

(7) Any foreign bank or company to which section 8 of the IBA (12 U.S.C. 3106), applies or any subsidiary (other than a bank) thereof; and

(8) Any Federal agency as that term is defined in section 1(b) of the IBA (12 U.S.C. 3101(5)).

(i) *Institution-affiliated party* means:

(1) Any institution-affiliated party as that term is defined in section 3(u) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1813(u)); and

(2) Any institution-affiliated party as that term is defined in section 206(r) of the FCUA (12 U.S.C. 1786(r)).

(j) *Local Rules* means those rules which are promulgated by an Agency in the subparts of this part excluding subpart A and which may contain some or all of the following:

(1) Procedures for formal enforcement actions that fewer than four of the five Agencies may have the authority to issue;

(2) Procedures for informal proceedings which are not required to be conducted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act ("APA");

(3) Procedures which supplement the Uniform Rules in subpart A of this part; and

(4) Internal procedures for processing administrative enforcement actions and sanctions particular to each Agency.

(k) *Office of Financial Institution Adjudication* ("OFIA") means the executive body charged with overseeing the administration of administrative enforcement proceedings for the Agencies.

(l) *Party* means the Agency and any person named as a party in any notice.

(m) *Person* means an individual, sole proprietor, partnership, corporation, unincorporated association, trust, joint venture, pool, syndicate, agency or other entity or organization, including an institution as defined in paragraph (h) of this section.

(n) *Respondent* means any party other than the Agency.

(o) *Uniform Rules* means those rules in subpart A of this part that pertain to the types of formal administrative enforcement actions common to at least four of the five Agencies.

(p) *Violation* includes any action (alone or with another or others) for or toward causing, bringing about, participating in, counseling, or aiding or abetting a violation.

§ _____.4 Authority of Agency Head.

The Agency Head may, at any time during the pendency of a proceeding perform, direct the performance of, or waive performance of, any act which could be done or ordered by the administrative law judge.

§ _____.5 Authority of the administrative law judge.

(a) *General rule.* All proceedings governed by this part shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 5 of Title 5 of the United States Code. The administrative law judge shall have all powers necessary to conduct a proceeding in a fair and impartial manner and to avoid unnecessary delay.

(b) *Powers.* The administrative law judge shall have all powers necessary to conduct the proceeding in accordance with paragraph (a) of this section, including the following powers:

(1) To administer oaths and affirmations;

(2) To issue subpoenas, subpoenas duces tecum, and protective orders, as authorized by this part, and to quash or modify any such subpoenas and orders;

(3) To receive relevant evidence and to rule upon the admission of evidence and offers of proof;

(4) To take or cause depositions to be taken as authorized by this subpart;

(5) To regulate the course of the hearing and the conduct of the parties and their counsel;

(6) To hold scheduling and/or pre-hearing conferences as set forth in § _____.31;

(7) To consider and rule upon all procedural and other motions appropriate in an adjudicatory proceeding, provided that only the Agency Head shall have the power to grant any motion to dismiss the proceeding or to decide any other motion that results in a final determination of the merits of the proceeding;

(8) To prepare and present to the Agency Head a recommended decision as provided herein;

(9) To recuse himself or herself by motion made by a party or on his or her own motion;

(10) To establish time, place and manner limitations on the attendance of the public and the media for any public hearing; and

(11) To do all other things necessary and appropriate to discharge the duties of a presiding officer.

§ _____.6 Appearance and practice in adjudicatory proceedings.

(a) *Appearance before an Agency or an administrative law judge*—(1) *By attorneys.* Any member in good standing of the bar of the highest court of any state, commonwealth, possession, territory of the United States, or the District of Columbia may represent others before the Agency if such attorney is not currently suspended or debarred from practice before the Agency.

(2) *By non-attorneys.* An individual may appear on his or her own behalf; a

member of a partnership may represent the partnership; a duly authorized officer, director, or employee of any government unit, agency, institution, corporation or authority may represent that unit, agency, institution, corporation or authority if such officer, director, or employee is not currently suspended or debarred from practice before the Agency.

(3) *Notice of appearance.* Any individual acting as counsel on behalf of a party, including the Agency, shall file a notice of appearance with the OFIA at or before the time that individual submits papers or otherwise appears on behalf of a party in the adjudicatory proceeding. Such notice of appearance shall include a written declaration that the individual is currently qualified as provided in paragraph (a)(1) or (a)(2) of this section and is authorized to represent the particular party. By filing a notice of appearance on behalf of a party in an adjudicatory proceeding, the counsel thereby agrees, and represents that he or she is authorized, to accept service on behalf of the represented party.

(b) *Sanctions.* Dilatory, obstructionist, egregious, contemptuous or contumacious conduct at any phase of any adjudicatory proceeding may be grounds for exclusion or suspension of counsel from the proceeding.

§ _____.7 Good faith certification.

(a) *General requirement.* Every filing or submission of record following the issuance of a notice shall be signed by at least one counsel of record in his or her individual name and shall state that counsel's address and telephone number. A party who acts as his or her own counsel shall sign his or her individual name and state his or her address and telephone number on every filing or submission of record.

(b) *Effect of signature.* (1) The signature of counsel or a party shall constitute a certification that: The counsel or party has read the filing or submission of record; to the best of his or her knowledge, information, and belief formed after reasonable inquiry, the filing or submission of record is well-grounded in fact and is warranted by existing law or a good faith argument for the extension, modification, or reversal of existing law; and the filing or submission of record is not made for any improper purpose, such as to harass or to cause unnecessary delay or needless increase in the cost of litigation.

(2) If a filing or submission of record is not signed, the administrative law judge shall strike the filing or submission of record, unless it is signed promptly after the omission is called to the attention of the pleader or movant.

(c) *Effect of making oral motion or argument.* The act of making any oral motion or oral argument by any counsel or party constitutes a certification that to the best of his or her knowledge, information, and belief formed after reasonable inquiry, his or her statements are well-grounded in fact and are warranted by existing law or a good faith argument for the extension, modification, or reversal of existing law, and are not made for any improper purpose, such as to harass or to cause unnecessary delay or needless increase in the cost of litigation.

§ _____.8 Conflicts of interest.

(a) *Conflict of interest in representation.* No person shall appear as counsel for another person in an adjudicatory proceeding if it reasonably appears that such representation may be materially limited by that counsel's responsibilities to a third person or by the counsel's own interests. The administrative law judge may take corrective measures at any stage of a proceeding to cure a conflict of interest in representation, including the issuance of an order limiting the scope of representation or disqualifying an individual from appearing in a representative capacity for the duration of the proceeding.

(b) *Certification and waiver.* If any person appearing as counsel represents two or more parties to an adjudicatory proceeding or a party and an institution to which notice of the proceeding must be given, counsel must certify in writing at the time of filing the notice of appearance required by § _____.6(a):

(1) That the counsel has personally and fully discussed the possibility of conflicts of interest with each such party or institution;

(2) That each such party or institution has advised its counsel that to its knowledge there is no existing or anticipated material conflict between its interests and the interests of others represented by the same counsel or his or her firm; and

(3) That each such party or institution waives any right it might otherwise have had to assert any known conflicts of interest or to assert any non-material conflicts of interest during the course of the proceeding.

§ _____.9 Ex parte Communications.

(a) *Definition*—(1) *Ex parte communication* means any material oral or written communication concerning the merits of an adjudicatory proceeding that was neither on the record nor on reasonable prior notice to all parties that takes place between:

(i) A party, his or her counsel, or another person interested in the proceeding; and

(ii) The administrative law judge handling that proceeding, the Agency Head or a decisional employee.

(2) *Exception.* A request for status of the proceeding does not constitute an ex parte communication.

(b) *Prohibition of ex parte communications.* From the time the notice is issued by the Agency Head until the date that the Agency Head issues its final decision pursuant to § _____.40(c), no party, interested person or counsel therefor shall knowingly make or cause to be made an ex parte communication concerning the merits of the proceeding to the Agency Head, the administrative law judge, or a decisional employee. The Agency Head, administrative law judge, or decisional employee shall not knowingly make or cause to be made to a party, or any interested person or counsel therefor, an ex parte communication relevant to the merits of a proceeding.

(c) *Procedure upon occurrence of ex parte communication.* If an ex parte communication is received by the administrative law judge, the Agency Head or other person identified in paragraph (a) of this section, that person shall cause all such written communications (or, if the communication is oral, a memorandum stating the substance of the communication) to be placed on the record of the proceeding and served on all parties. All other parties to the proceeding shall have an opportunity, within ten days of receipt of service of the ex parte communication to file responses thereto and to recommend any sanctions, in accordance with paragraph (d) of this section, that they believe to be appropriate under the circumstances.

(d) *Sanctions.* Any party or his or her counsel who makes a prohibited ex parte communication, or who encourages or solicits another to make any such communication, may be subject to any appropriate sanction or sanctions imposed by the Agency Head or the administrative law judge including, but not limited to, exclusion from the proceedings and an adverse ruling on the issue which is the subject of the prohibited communication.

§ _____.10 Filing of papers.

(a) *Filing.* Any papers required to be filed, excluding documents produced in response to a discovery request pursuant to §§ _____.25 and .26 shall

be filed with the OFIA, except as otherwise provided.

(b) *Manner of filing.* Unless otherwise specified by the Agency Head or the administrative law judge, filing may be accomplished by: (1) Personal service;

(2) Delivering the papers to a reliable commercial courier service, overnight delivery service, or to the U.S. Post Office for Express Mail delivery;

(3) Mailing the papers by first class, registered, or certified mail; or

(4) Transmission by electronic media, only if expressly authorized, and upon any conditions specified, by the Agency Head or the administrative law judge. All papers filed by electronic media shall also concurrently be filed in accordance with paragraph (c) of this section as to form.

(c) *Formal requirements as to papers filed*—(1) *Form.* All papers filed must set forth the name, address, and telephone number of the counsel or party making the filing and must be accompanied by a certification setting forth when and how service has been made on all other parties. All papers filed must be double-spaced and printed or typewritten on 8½ x 11 inch paper, and must be clear and legible.

(2) *Signature.* All papers must be dated and signed as provided in § _____.7.

(3) *Caption.* All papers filed must include at the head thereof, or on a title page, the name of the Agency and of the filing party, the title and docket number of the proceeding, and the subject of the particular paper.

(4) *Number of copies.* Unless otherwise specified by the Agency Head, or the administrative law judge, an original and one copy of all documents and papers shall be filed, except that only one copy of transcripts of testimony and exhibits shall be filed.

§ _____.11 Service of papers.

(a) *By the parties.* Except as otherwise provided, a party filing papers shall serve a copy upon the counsel of record for all other parties to the proceeding so represented, and upon any party not so represented.

(b) *Method of service.* Except as provided in paragraphs (c)(2) and (d) of this section, a serving party shall use one or more of the following methods of service:

(1) Personal service;

(2) Delivering the papers to a reliable commercial courier service, overnight delivery service, or to the U.S. Post Office for Express Mail delivery;

(3) Mailing the papers by first class, registered, or certified mail; or

(4) Transmission by electronic media, only if the parties mutually agree. Any papers served by electronic media shall also concurrently be served in accordance with the requirements of § _____.10(c) as to form.

(c) *By the Agency Head or the administrative law judge.* (1) All papers required to be served by the Agency Head or the administrative law judge upon a party who has appeared in the proceeding through a counsel of record, shall be served by any means specified in paragraph (b) of this section.

(2) If a party has not appeared in the proceeding through counsel, the Agency Head or the administrative law judge shall make service by any of the following methods:

(i) By personal service;

(ii) By delivery to a person of suitable age and discretion at the party's residence;

(iii) By registered or certified mail addressed to the party's last known address; or

(iv) By any other method reasonably calculated to give actual notice.

(d) *Subpoenas.* Service of a subpoena may be made by personal service, by delivery to an agent, by delivery to a person of suitable age and discretion at the subpoenaed person's residence, by registered or certified mail addressed to the person's last known address, or in such other manner as is reasonably calculated to give actual notice.

(e) *Area of service.* Service in any state, territory, possession of the United States, or the District of Columbia, on any person or company doing business in any state, territory, possession of the United States, or the District of Columbia, or on any person as otherwise provided by law, is effective without regard to the place where the hearing is held, provided that if service is made on a foreign bank in connection with an action or proceeding involving one or more of its branches or agencies located in any state, territory, possession of the United States, or the District of Columbia, service shall be made on at least one branch or agency so involved.

§ _____.12 Construction of time limits.

(a) *General rule.* In computing any period of time prescribed by this subpart, the date of the act or event from which the designated period of time begins to run is not included. The last day so computed is included unless it is a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday. When the last day is a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday, the period runs until the end of the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday. Intermediate Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays are included in the computation of time, except that, when the time period within which an act is to be performed is ten days or less, intermediate Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays are not included.

(b) *When papers are deemed to be filed or served.* (1) Filing and service are deemed to be effective:

(i) In the case of personal service or same day commercial courier delivery, upon actual service;

(ii) In the case of overnight commercial delivery service, U.S. Express Mail delivery, or first class, registered, or certified mail, upon deposit in or delivery to an appropriate point of collection;

(iii) In the case of transmission by electronic media, as specified by the authority receiving the filing, in the case of filing, and as agreed among the parties, in the case of service.

(2) The effective filing and service dates specified in paragraph (b)(1) of this section may be modified by the Agency Head or administrative law judge in the case of filing or by agreement of the parties in the case of service.

(c) *Calculation of time for service and filing of responsive papers.* Whenever a time limit is measured by a prescribed period from the service of any notice or paper, the applicable time limits are calculated as follows:

(1) If service is made by first class, registered or certified mail, add three days to the prescribed period;

(2) If service is made by express mail or overnight delivery service, add one day to the prescribed period;

(3) If service is made by electronic media transmission, add one day to the prescribed period, unless otherwise determined by the Agency Head or the administrative law judge in the case of filing, or by agreement among the parties in the case of service.

§ _____.13 Change of time limits.

Except as otherwise provided by law, the administrative law judge may, for good cause shown, extend the time limits prescribed by these uniform Rules or by any notice or order issued in the proceedings. After the referral of the case to the Agency Head pursuant to § _____.38, the Agency Head may grant extensions of the time limits for good cause shown. Extensions may be granted at the motion of a party or on the Agency Head's or the administrative law judge's own motion after notice and opportunity to respond is afforded all nonmoving parties.

§ _____.14 Witness fees and expenses.

Witnesses subpoenaed for testimony or depositions shall be paid the same fees for attendance and mileage as are paid in the United States district courts in proceedings in which the United States is a party, provided that, in the case of a discovery subpoena addressed to a party, no witness fees or mileage need be paid. Fees for witnesses shall be tendered in advance by the party requesting the subpoena, except that fees and mileage need not be tendered in advance where the Agency is the party requesting the subpoena. The Agency shall not be required to pay any fees to, or expenses of, any witness not subpoenaed by the Agency.

§ _____.15 Opportunity for informal settlement.

Any respondent may, at any time in the proceeding, unilaterally submit to Enforcement Counsel written offers or proposals for settlement of a proceeding, without prejudice to the rights of any of the parties. No such offer or proposal shall be made to any Agency representative other than Enforcement Counsel. Submission of a written settlement offer does not provide a basis for adjourning or otherwise delaying all or any portion of a proceeding under this part. No settlement offer or proposal, or any subsequent negotiation or resolution, is admissible as evidence in any proceeding.

§ _____.16 Agency's right to conduct examination.

Nothing contained in this subpart limits in any manner the right of the Agency to conduct any examination, inspection, or visitation of any institution or institution-affiliated party, or the right of the Agency to conduct or continue any form of investigation authorized by law.

§ _____.17 Collateral attacks on adjudicatory proceeding.

If an interlocutory appeal or collateral attack is brought in any court concerning all or any part of an adjudicatory proceeding, the challenged adjudicatory proceeding shall continue without regard to the pendency of that court proceeding. No default or other failure to act as directed in the adjudicatory proceeding within the times prescribed in this subpart shall be excused based on the pendency before any court of any interlocutory appeal or collateral attack.

§ _____.18 Commencement of proceeding and contents of notice.

(a) *Commencement of proceeding.* (1) (i) Except for change-in-control proceedings under section 7(j)(4) of the FDIA, 12 U.S.C. 1817(j)(4), a proceeding governed by this subpart is commenced by issuance of a notice by the Agency Head.

(ii) The notice must be served by the Agency Head upon the respondent and given to any other appropriate financial institution supervisory authority where required by law.

(iii) The notice must be filed with the OFIA.

(2) Change-in control proceedings under section 7(j)(4) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)(4)) commence with the issuance of an order by the Agency Head.

(b) *Contents of notice.* The notice must set forth:

(1) The legal authority for the proceeding and for the Agency's jurisdiction over the proceeding;

(2) A statement of the matters of fact or law showing that the Agency is entitled to relief;

(3) A proposed order or prayer for an order granting the requested relief;

(4) The time, place, and nature of the hearing as required by law or regulation;

(5) The time within which to file an answer as required by law or regulation;

(6) The time within which to request a hearing as required by law or regulation; and

(7) The answer and/or request for a hearing shall be filed with OFIA.

§ _____.19 Answer.

(a) *When.* Within 20 days of service of the notice, respondent shall file an answer as designated in the notice. In a civil money penalty proceeding, respondent shall also file a request for a hearing within 20 days of service of the notice.

(b) *Content of answer.* An answer must specifically respond to each paragraph or allegation of fact contained in the notice and must admit, deny, or state that the party lacks sufficient information to admit or deny each allegation of fact. A statement of lack of information has the effect of a denial. Denials must fairly meet the substance of each allegation of fact denied; general denials are not permitted. When a respondent denies part of an allegation, that part must be denied and the remainder specifically admitted. Any allegation of fact in the notice which is not denied in the answer must be deemed admitted for purposes of the proceeding. A respondent is not required to respond to the portion of a notice that constitutes the prayer for relief or proposed order. The answer must set forth affirmative defenses, if any, asserted by the respondent.

(c) *Default.*—(1) *Effect of failure to answer.* Failure of a respondent to file an answer required by this section within the time provided constitutes a waiver of his or her right to appear and contest the allegations in the notice. If no timely answer is filed, the administrative law judge, upon motion of the Enforcement Counsel and, without further proceedings or notice to the respondent, shall file with the Agency Head a recommended decision containing the findings and the relief sought in the notice. Any final order issued by the Agency Head based upon a respondent's failure to answer is deemed to be an order issued upon consent.

(2) *Effect of failure to request a hearing in civil money penalty proceedings.* If respondent fails to request a hearing as required by law within the time provided, the notice of assessment constitutes a final and unappealable order.

§ _____.20 Amended pleadings.

(a) *Amendments.* The notice or answer may be amended or supplemented at any stage of the proceeding by leave of the administrative law judge. Such leave will be freely given. The respondent shall answer an amended notice within the time remaining for the respondent's answer to the original notice, or within ten days after service of the amended notice, whichever period is longer, unless the Agency Head or administrative law judge orders otherwise for good cause shown.

(b) *Amendments to conform to the evidence.* When issues not raised in the notice or answer are tried at the hearing by express or implied consent of the parties, they will be treated in all respects as if they had been raised in the notice or answer, and no formal amendments are required. If evidence is objected to at the hearing on the ground that it is not within the issues raised by the notice or answer, the administrative law judge may allow the notice or answer to be amended and will do so freely when the determination of the merits of the action is served thereby and the objecting party fails to satisfy the administrative law judge that the admission of such evidence would unfairly prejudice that party's action or defense upon the merits. The administrative law judge may grant a continuance to enable the objecting party to meet such evidence.

§ _____.21 Failure to appear.

Failure of a respondent to appear in person at the hearing or by a duly authorized counsel constitutes a waiver of respondent's right to a hearing and is

deemed an admission of the facts as alleged and consent to the relief sought in the notice. Without further proceedings or notice to the respondent, the administrative law judge shall file with the Agency Head a recommended decision containing the findings and the relief sought in the notice.

§ _____.22 Consolidation and severance of actions.

(a) *Consolidation.* (1) On the motion of any party, or on the administrative law judge's own motion, the administrative law judge may consolidate, for some or all purposes, any two or more proceedings, if each such proceeding involves or arises out of the same transaction, occurrence or series of transactions or occurrences, or involves at least one common respondent or a material common question of law or fact, unless such consolidation would cause unreasonable delay or injustice.

(2) In the event of consolidation under paragraph (a)(1) of this section, appropriate adjustment to the prehearing schedule must be made to avoid unnecessary expense, inconvenience, or delay.

(b) *Severance.* The administrative law judge may, upon the motion of any party, sever the proceeding for separate resolution of the matter as to any respondent only if the administrative law judge finds that:

(1) Undue prejudice or injustice to the moving party would result from not severing the proceeding; and

(2) Such undue prejudice or injustice would outweigh the interests of judicial economy and expedition in the complete and final resolution of the proceeding.

§ _____.23 Motions.

(a) *In writing.* (1) Except as otherwise provided herein, an application or request for an order or ruling must be made by written motion.

(2) All written motions must state with particularity the relief sought and must be accompanied by a proposed order.

(3) No oral argument may be held on written motions except as otherwise directed by the administrative law judge. Written memoranda, briefs, affidavits or other relevant material or documents may be filed in support of or in opposition to a motion.

(b) *Oral motions.* A motion may be made orally on the record unless the administrative law judge directs that such motion be reduced to writing.

(c) *Filing of motions.* Motions must be filed with the administrative law judge, but upon the filing of the recommended decision, motions must be filed with the Agency Head.

(d) *Responses.* (1) Except as otherwise provided herein, within ten days after service of any written motion, or within such other period of time as may be established by the administrative law judge or the Agency Head, any party may file a written response to a motion. The administrative law judge shall not rule on any oral or written motion before each party has had an opportunity to file a response.

(2) The failure of a party to oppose a written motion or an oral motion made on the record is deemed a consent by that party to the entry of an order substantially in the form of the order accompanying the motion.

(e) *Dilatory motions.* Frivolous, dilatory or repetitive motions are prohibited. The filing of such motions may form the basis for sanctions.

(f) *Dispositive motions.* Dispositive motions are governed by §§ _____.29 and _____.30.

§ _____.24 Scope of document discovery.

(a) *Limits on discovery.* (1) Parties to proceedings under this subpart may obtain document discovery through the production of documents, including writings, drawings, graphs, charts, photographs, recordings, and other data compilations from which information can be obtained, or translated, if necessary, by the parties through detection devices into reasonably usable form.

(2) Discovery by use of deposition is governed by the Local Rules of each Agency.

(b) *Relevance.* Parties may obtain document discovery regarding any matter, not privileged, which has material relevance to the merits of the pending action. It is not a ground for objection that the information sought will be inadmissible at the hearing if the information sought appears reasonably calculated to lead to discovery of admissible evidence. The request may not be unreasonable, oppressive, excessive in scope or unduly burdensome.

(c) *Privileged matter.* Privileged documents are not discoverable. Privileges include the attorney-client privilege, work-product privilege, any government's or government agency's deliberative-process privilege, and any other privileges the Constitution, any applicable act of Congress, or the principles of common law provide.

(d) *Time limits.* All discovery, including all responses to discovery requests, shall be completed at least 20 days prior to the date scheduled for the commencement of the hearing, except as provided in the Local Rules. No exceptions to this time limit shall be permitted, unless the administrative law judge finds on the record that good cause exists for waiving the requirements of this paragraph.

§ _____.25 Request for document discovery from parties.

(a) *General rule.* Any party may serve on any other party a request to produce for inspection any discoverable documents which are in the possession, custody, or control of the party upon whom the request is served. The request must identify the documents to be produced either by individual item or by category, and must describe each item and category with reasonable particularity. Documents must be produced as they are kept in the usual course of business and shall be organized to correspond with the categories in the request.

(b) *Production or copying.* The request must specify a reasonable time, place, and manner for production and performing any related acts. In lieu of inspecting the documents the requesting party may specify that all or some of the responsive documents are to be copied and the copies delivered to the requesting party. If copying of fewer than 250 pages is requested, the party to whom the request is addressed shall bear the cost of copying and shipping charges. If more than 250 pages of copying is requested, the requesting party shall pay for copying, unless the parties agree otherwise, at the current per-page copying rate imposed by each agency's rules implementing the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552a) plus the cost of shipping.

(c) *Obligation to update responses.* A party who has responded to a discovery request with a response that was complete when made is not required to supplement the response to include documents thereafter acquired, unless the responding party learns that:

(1) The response was materially incorrect when made; or

(2) The response, though correct when made, is no longer true and a failure to amend the response is, in substance, a knowing concealment.

(d) *Motions to limit discovery.* (1) Any party that objects to a discovery request may, within ten days of being served with such request, file a motion in accordance with the provisions of § _____.23 to revoke or otherwise limit the request. If an objection is made to only a portion of an item or category in a request, the portion objected to shall be specified. Any objections not made in accordance with this paragraph and § _____.23 are waived.

(2) The party who served the request that is the subject of a motion to revoke or limit may file a written response within five days of service of the motion. No other party may file a response.

(e) *Privilege.* At the time other documents are produced, all documents withheld on the grounds of privilege must be reasonably identified, together with a statement of the basis for the assertion of privilege.

(f) *Motions to compel production.* (1) If a party withholds any documents as privileged or fails to comply fully with a discovery request, the requesting party may, within ten days of the assertion of privilege or of the time the failure to comply becomes known to the requesting party, file a motion in accordance with the provisions of § _____.23 for the issuance of a subpoena compelling production.

(2) The party who asserted the privilege or failed to comply with the request may file a written response to a motion to compel within five days of service of the motion. No other party may file a response.

(g) *Ruling on motions.* After the time for filing responses pursuant to this section has expired, the administrative law judge shall rule promptly on all motions filed pursuant to this section. If the administrative law judge determines that a discovery request, or any of its terms, is unreasonable, unduly burdensome, excessive in scope, repetitive of previous requests or seeks to obtain privileged documents, he or she may modify the request, and may issue appropriate protective orders, upon such conditions as justice may require. The pendency of a motion to revoke or limit discovery or to compel production shall not be a basis for staying or continuing the proceeding, unless otherwise ordered by the administrative law judge.

(h) *Enforcing discovery subpoenas.* If the administrative law judge issues a subpoena compelling production of documents by a party, the subpoenaing party may, in the event of noncompliance and to the extent authorized by applicable law, apply to any appropriate United States district court for an order requiring compliance with the subpoena. A party's right to seek court enforcement of a subpoena shall not in any manner limit the sanctions that may be imposed by the administrative law judge against a party who fails to produce subpoenaed documents.

§ _____.26 Document subpoenas to nonparties.

(a) *General rules.* (1) Any party may apply to the administrative law judge for the issuance of a document discovery subpoena addressed to any person who is not a party to the proceeding. The application must contain a proposed document subpoena and a brief statement showing the general relevance and reasonableness of the scope of documents sought. The subpoenaing party shall specify a reasonable time, place, and manner for making production in response to the document subpoena.

(2) A party shall only apply for a document subpoena under this section within the time period during which such party could serve a discovery request under § _____.24(d). The party obtaining the document subpoena is responsible for serving it on the subpoenaed person and for serving copies on all parties. Document subpoenas may be served in any state, territory, or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia, or as otherwise provided by law.

(3) The administrative law judge shall promptly issue any document subpoena requested pursuant to this section. If the administrative law judge determines that the application does not set forth a valid basis for the issuance of the subpoena, or that any of its terms are unreasonable, oppressive, excessive in scope, or unduly burdensome, he or she may refuse to issue the subpoena or may issue it in a modified form upon such conditions as may be consistent with the Uniform Rules.

(b) *Motion to quash or modify.* (1) Any person to whom a document subpoena is directed may file a motion to quash or modify such subpoena, accompanied by a statement of the basis for quashing or modifying the subpoena. The movant shall serve the motion on all parties, and any party may respond to such motion within ten days of service of the motion.

(2) Any motion to quash or modify a document subpoena must be filed on the same basis, including the assertion of privilege, upon which a party could object to a discovery request under § _____.25(d), and during the same time limits during which such an objection could be filed.

(c) *Enforcing document subpoenas.* If a subpoenaed person fails to comply with any subpoena issued pursuant to this section or any order of the administrative law judge which directs compliance with all or any portion of a document subpoena, the subpoenaing party or any other aggrieved party may, to the extent authorized by applicable law, apply to an appropriate United States district court for an order requiring compliance with so much of the document subpoena as the administrative law judge has not quashed or modified. A party's right to seek court enforcement of a document subpoena shall in no way limit the sanctions that may be imposed by the administrative law judge on a party who induces a failure to comply with subpoenas issued under this section.

§ _____.27 Deposition of witness unavailable for hearing.

(a) *General rules.* (1) If a witness will not be available for the hearing, a party may apply in accordance with the procedures set forth in paragraph (a)(2) of this section, to the administrative law judge for the issuance of a subpoena, including a subpoena duces tecum, requiring the attendance of the witness at a deposition. The administrative law judge may issue a deposition subpoena under this section upon showing that:

(i) The witness will be unable to attend or may be prevented from attending the hearing because of age, sickness or infirmity, or will otherwise be unavailable;

(ii) The witness' unavailability was not procured or caused by the subpoenaing party;

(iii) The testimony is reasonably expected to be material; and

(iv) Taking the deposition will not result in any undue burden to any other party and will not cause undue delay of the proceeding.

(2) The application must contain a proposed deposition subpoena and a brief statement of the reasons for the issuance of the subpoena. The subpoena must name the witness whose deposition is to be taken and specify the time and place for taking the deposition. A deposition subpoena may require the witness to be deposed at any place within the country in which that witness resides or has a regular place of employment or such other convenient place as the administrative law judge shall fix.

(3) Any requested subpoena that sets forth a valid basis for its issuance must be promptly issued, unless the administrative law judge on his or her own motion, requires a written response or requires attendance at a conference concerning whether the requested subpoena should be issued.

(4) The party obtaining a deposition subpoena is responsible for serving it on the witness and for serving copies on all parties. Unless the administrative law judge orders otherwise, no deposition under this section shall be taken on fewer than ten days' notice to the witness and all parties. Deposition subpoenas may be served in any state, territory, possession of the United States, or the District of Columbia, on

any person or company doing business in any state, territory, possession of the United States, or the District of Columbia, or as otherwise permitted by law.

(b) *Objections to deposition subpoenas.* (1) The witness and any party who has not had an opportunity to oppose a deposition subpoena issued under this section may file a motion with the administrative law judge to quash or modify the subpoena prior to the time for compliance specified in the subpoena, but not more than ten days after service of the subpoena.

(2) A statement of the basis for the motion to quash or modify a subpoena issued under this section must accompany the motion. The motion must be served on all parties.

(c) *Procedure upon deposition.* (1) Each witness testifying pursuant to a deposition subpoena must be duly sworn, and each party shall have the right to examine the witness. Objections to questions or documents must be in short form, stating the grounds for the objection. Failure to object to questions or documents is not deemed a waiver except where the ground for the objection might have been avoided if the objection had been timely presented. All questions, answers, and objections must be recorded.

(2) Any party may move before the administrative law judge for an order compelling the witness to answer any questions the witness has refused to answer or submit any evidence the witness has refused to submit during the deposition.

(3) The deposition must be subscribed by the witness, unless the parties and the witness, by stipulation, have waived the signing, or the witness is ill, cannot be found, or has refused to sign. If the deposition is not subscribed by the witness, the court reporter taking the deposition shall certify that the transcript is a true and complete transcript of the deposition.

(d) *Enforcing subpoenas.* If a subpoenaed person fails to comply with any order of the administrative law judge which directs compliance with all or any portion of a deposition subpoena under paragraph (b) or (c)(3) of this section, the subpoenaing party or other aggrieved party may, to the extent authorized by applicable law, apply to an appropriate United States district court for an order requiring compliance with the portions of the subpoena that the administrative law judge has ordered enforced. A party's right to seek court enforcement of a deposition subpoena in no way limits the sanctions that may be imposed by the administrative law judge on a party who fails to comply with or procures a failure to comply with, a subpoena issued under this section.

§ _____.28 Interlocutory review.

(a) *General rule.* The Agency Head may review a ruling of the administrative law judge prior to the certification of the record to the Agency Head only in accordance with the procedures set forth in this section and § _____.23.

(b) *Scope of review.* The Agency Head may exercise interlocutory review of a ruling of the administrative law judge if the Agency Head finds that:

(1) The ruling involves a controlling question of law or policy as to which substantial grounds exist for a difference of opinion;

(2) Immediate review of the ruling may materially advance the ultimate termination of the proceeding;

(3) Subsequent modification of the ruling at the conclusion of the proceeding would be an inadequate remedy; or

(4) Subsequent modification of the ruling would cause unusual delay or expense.

(c) *Procedure.* Any request for interlocutory review shall be filed by a party with the administrative law judge within ten days of his or her ruling and shall otherwise comply with § _____.23. Any party may file a response to a request for interlocutory review in accordance with § _____.23(d). Upon the expiration of the time for filing all responses, the administrative law judge shall refer the matter to the Agency Head for final disposition.

(d) *Suspension of proceeding.* Neither a request for interlocutory review nor any disposition of such a request by the Agency Head under this section suspends or stays the proceeding unless otherwise ordered by the administrative law judge or the Agency Head.

§ _____.29 Summary disposition.

(a) *In general.* The administrative law judge shall recommend that the Agency Head issue a final order granting a motion for summary disposition if the undisputed pleaded facts, admissions, affidavits, stipulations, documentary evidence, matters as to which official notice may be taken, and any other evidentiary materials properly submitted in connection with a motion for summary disposition show that:

(1) There is no genuine issue as to any material fact; and

(2) The moving party is entitled to a decision in its favor as a matter of law.

(b) *Filing of motions and responses.* (1) Any party who believes that there is no genuine issue of material fact to be determined and that he or she is entitled to a decision as a matter of law may move at any time for summary disposition in its favor of all or any part of the proceeding. Any party, within 20 days after service of such a motion, or within such time period as allowed by the administrative law judge, may file a response to such motion.

(2) A motion for summary disposition must be accompanied by a statement of the material facts as to which the moving party contends there is no genuine issue. Such motion must be supported by documentary evidence, which may take the form of admissions in pleadings, stipulations, depositions, investigatory depositions, transcripts, affidavits and any other evidentiary materials that the moving party contends support his or her position. The motion must also be accompanied by a brief containing the points and authorities in support of the contention of the moving party. Any party opposing a motion for summary disposition must file a statement setting forth those material facts as to which he or she contends a genuine dispute exists. Such opposition must be supported by evidence of the same type as that submitted with the motion for summary disposition and a brief containing the points and authorities in support of the contention that summary disposition would be inappropriate.

(c) *Hearing on motion.* At the request of any party or on his or her own motion, the administrative law judge may hear oral argument on the motion for summary disposition.

(d) *Decision on motion.* Following receipt of a motion for summary disposition and all responses thereto, the administrative law judge shall determine whether the moving party is entitled to summary disposition. If the administrative law judge determines that summary disposition is warranted, the administrative law judge shall submit a recommended decision to that effect to the Agency Head. If the administrative law judge finds that no party is entitled to summary disposition, he or she shall make a ruling denying the motion.

§ _____.30 Partial summary disposition.

If the administrative law judge determines that a party is entitled to summary disposition as to certain claims only, he or she shall defer submitting a recommended decision as to those claims. A hearing on the remaining issues must be ordered. Those claims for which the administrative law judge has determined that summary disposition is warranted will be

addressed in the recommended decision filed at the conclusion of the hearing.

§ _____.31 Scheduling and prehearing conferences.

(a) *Scheduling conference.* Within 30 days of service of the notice or order commencing a proceeding or such other time as parties may agree, the administrative law judge shall direct counsel for all parties to meet with him or her in person at a specified time and place prior to the hearing or to confer by telephone for the purpose of scheduling the course and conduct of the proceeding. This meeting or telephone conference is called a "scheduling conference." The identification of potential witnesses, the time for and manner of discovery, and the exchange of any prehearing materials including witness lists, statements of issues, stipulations, exhibits and any other materials may also be determined at the scheduling conference.

(b) *Prehearing conferences.* The administrative law judge may, in addition to the scheduling conference, on his or her own motion or at the request of any party, direct counsel for the parties to meet with him or her (in person or by telephone) at a prehearing conference to address any or all of the following:

(1) Simplification and clarification of the issues;

(2) Stipulations, admissions of fact, and the contents, authenticity and admissibility into evidence of documents;

(3) Matters of which official notice may be taken;

(4) Limitation of the number of witnesses;

(5) Summary disposition of any or all issues;

(6) Resolution of discovery issues or disputes;

(7) Amendments to pleadings; and

(8) Such other matters as may aid in the orderly disposition of the proceeding.

(c) *Transcript.* The administrative law judge, in his or her discretion, may require that a scheduling or prehearing conference be recorded by a court reporter. A transcript of the conference and any materials filed, including orders, becomes part of the record of the proceeding. A party may obtain a copy of the transcript at its expense.

(d) *Scheduling or prehearing orders.* At or within a reasonable time following the conclusion of the scheduling conference or any prehearing conference, the administrative law judge shall serve on each party an order setting forth any agreements reached and any procedural determinations made.

§ _____.32 Prehearing submissions.

(a) Within the time set by the administrative law judge, but in no case later than 14 days before the start of the hearing, each party shall serve on every other party, his or her:

(1) Prehearing statement;

(2) Final list of witnesses to be called to testify at the hearing, including name and address of each witness and a short summary of the expected testimony of each witness;

(3) List of the exhibits to be introduced at the hearing along with a copy of each exhibit; and

(4) Stipulation of fact, if any.

(b) *Effect of failure to comply.* No witness may testify and no exhibits may be introduced at the hearing if such witness or exhibit is not listed in the prehearing submissions pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section, except for good cause shown.

§ _____.33 Public hearings.

(a) *General rule.* All hearings shall be open to the public, unless the Agency, in its discretion, determines that holding an open hearing would be contrary to the public interest. Within 20 days of service of the notice or, in the case of change-in-control proceedings under section 7(j)(4) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)(4)), within 20 days from service of the hearing order, any respondent may file with the Agency Head a request for a private hearing, and any party may file a pleading in reply to such a request. Such requests and replies are governed by § _____.23. Failure to file a request or a reply is deemed a waiver of any objections regarding whether the hearing will be public or private.

(b) *Filing document under seal.* Enforcement Counsel, in his or her discretion, may file any document or part of a document under seal if disclosure of the document would be contrary to the public interest. The administrative law judge shall take all appropriate steps to preserve the confidentiality of such documents or parts thereof, including closing portions of the hearing to the public.

§ _____.34 Hearing subpoenas.

(a) *Issuance.* (1) Upon application of a party showing general relevance and reasonableness of scope of the testimony or other evidence sought, the administrative law judge may issue a subpoena or a subpoena duces tecum requiring the attendance of a witness at the hearing or the production of documentary or physical evidence at such hearing. The application for a hearing subpoena must also contain a proposed subpoena specifying the attendance of a witness or the production of evidence from any state, territory, or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia or as otherwise provided by law at any designated place where the hearing is being conducted.

(2) A party may apply for a hearing subpoena at any time before the commencement of a hearing. During a hearing, such applications may be made orally on the record before the administrative law judge. The party making the application shall serve a copy of the application and the proposed subpoena on every other party to the proceeding.

(3) The administrative law judge shall promptly issue any hearing subpoena requested pursuant to this section. If the administrative law judge determines that the application does not set forth a valid basis for the issuance of the subpoena, or that any of its terms are unreasonable, oppressive, excessive in scope, or unduly burdensome, he or she may refuse to issue the subpoena or may issue it in a modified form upon any conditions consistent with these rules.

(b) *Motion to quash or modify.* (1) Any person to whom a hearing subpoena is directed may file a motion to quash or modify such subpoena, accompanied by a statement of the basis for quashing or modifying the subpoena. The movant shall serve the motion on all parties, and any party may respond to such motion within ten days of service of the motion.

(2) Any motion to quash or modify a hearing subpoena must be filed prior to the time specified in the subpoena for compliance, but not more than ten days after the date of service of the subpoena upon the movant.

(c) *Enforcing subpoenas.* If a subpoenaed person fails to comply with any subpoena issued pursuant to this section or any order of the administrative law judge which directs compliance with all or any portion of a document subpoena, the subpoenaing party or any other aggrieved party may seek enforcement of the subpoena pursuant to § _____.26(c).

§ _____.35 Conduct of hearings.

(a) *General rules.* (1) Hearings shall be conducted so as to provide a fair and expeditious presentation of the relevant disputed issues. Each party has the right to present its case or defense by oral and documentary evidence and to conduct such cross examination as may be required for full disclosure of the facts.

(2) *Order of hearing.* Enforcement Counsel shall present its case-in-chief first, unless otherwise ordered by the administrative law judge, or unless otherwise expressly specified by law or regulation. Enforcement Counsel shall be the first party to present an opening statement and a closing statement, and may make a rebuttal statement after the respondent's closing statement. If there are multiple respondents, respondents may agree among themselves as to their order of presentation of their cases, but if they do not agree the administrative law judge shall fix the order.

(3) *Stipulations.* Unless the administrative law judge directs otherwise, all stipulations of fact and law previously agreed upon by the parties, and all documents, the admissibility of which have been previously stipulated, will be admitted into evidence upon commencement of the hearing.

(b) *Transcript.* The hearing must be recorded and transcribed. The transcript shall be made available to any party upon payment of the cost thereof. The administrative law judge shall have authority to order the record corrected, either upon motion to correct, upon stipulation of the parties, or following notice to the parties upon the administrative law judge's own motion. The administrative law judge shall serve notice upon all parties that the certified transcript, together with all hearing exhibits and exhibits introduced but not admitted into evidence at the hearing, has been filed.

§ _____.36 Evidence.

(a) *Admissibility.* (1) Except as is otherwise set forth in this section, relevant, material, and reliable evidence that is not unduly repetitive is admissible to the fullest extent authorized by the APA and other applicable law.

(2) Evidence that would be admissible under the Federal Rules of Evidence is admissible in a proceeding conducted pursuant to this subpart.

(3) Evidence that would be inadmissible under the Federal Rules of Evidence may not be deemed or ruled to be inadmissible in a proceeding conducted pursuant to this subpart if such evidence is relevant, material, reliable and not unduly repetitive.

(b) *Official notice.* (1) Official notice may be taken of any material fact which may be judicially noticed by a United States district court and any material information in the official public records of any Federal or state government agency.

(2) All matters officially noticed by the administrative law judge or Agency Head shall appear on the record.

(3) If official notice is requested or taken of any material fact, the parties, upon timely request, shall be afforded an opportunity to object.

(c) *Documents.* (1) A duplicate copy of a document is admissible to the same extent as the original, unless a genuine issue is raised as to whether the copy is in some material respect not a true and legible copy of the original.

(2) Subject to the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section, any document, including a report of examination, supervisory activity, inspection or visitation, prepared by the appropriate Agency or state regulatory agency, is admissible either with or without a sponsoring witness.

(3) Witnesses may use existing or newly created charts, exhibits, calendars, calculations, outlines or other graphic material to summarize, illustrate, or simplify the presentation of testimony. Such materials may, subject to the administrative law judge's discretion, be used with or without being admitted into evidence.

(d) *Objections.* (1) Objections to the admissibility of evidence must be timely made and rulings on all objections must appear on the record.

(2) When an objection to a question or line of questioning propounded to a witness is sustained, the examining counsel may make a specific proffer on the record of what he or she expected to prove by the expected testimony of the witness, either by representation of counsel or by direct interrogation of the witness.

(3) The administrative law judge shall retain rejected exhibits, adequately marked for identification, for the record, and transmit such exhibits to the Agency Head.

(4) Failure to object to admission of evidence or to any ruling constitutes a waiver of the objection.

(e) *Stipulations.* The parties may stipulate as to any relevant matters of fact or the authentication of any relevant documents. Such stipulations must be received in evidence at a hearing, and are binding on the parties with respect to the matters therein stipulated.

(f) *Depositions of unavailable witnesses.* (1) If a witness is unavailable to testify at a hearing, and that witness has testified in a deposition to which all parties in a proceeding had notice and an opportunity to participate, a party may offer as evidence all or any part of the transcript of the deposition, including deposition exhibits, if any.

(2) Such deposition transcript is admissible to the same extent that testimony would have been admissible had that person testified at the hearing, provided that if a witness refused to answer proper questions during the depositions, the administrative law judge may, on that basis, limit the admissibility of the deposition in any manner that justice requires.

(3) Only those portions of a deposition received in evidence at the hearing constitute a part of the record.

§ _____.37 Proposed findings and conclusions.

(a) *Proposed findings and conclusions and supporting briefs.* (1) Any party may file with the administrative law judge proposed findings of fact, proposed conclusions of law, and a proposed order within 30 days after the parties have received notice that the transcript has been filed with the administrative law judge, unless otherwise ordered by the administrative law judge.

(2) Proposed findings and conclusions must be supported by citation to any relevant authorities and by page references to any relevant portions of the record. A post-hearing brief may be filed in support of proposed findings and conclusions, either as part of the same document or in a separate document. Any party who fails to file timely with the administrative law judge any proposed finding or conclusion is deemed to have waived the right to raise in any subsequent filing or submission any issue not addressed in such party's proposed finding or conclusion.

(b) *Reply briefs.* Reply briefs may be filed within 15 days after the date on which the parties' proposed findings, conclusions, and order are due. Reply briefs must be strictly limited to responding to new matters, issues, or arguments raised in another party's papers. A party who has not filed proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law or a post-hearing brief may not file a reply brief.

(c) *Simultaneous filing required.* The administrative law judge shall not order the filing by any party of any brief or reply brief in advance of the other party's filing of its brief.

§ _____.38 Recommended decision and filing of record.

Within 45 days after expiration of the time allowed for filing reply briefs under § _____.37(b), the administrative law judge shall file with and certify to the Agency Head for decision the record of the proceeding. The record must include the administrative law judge's recommended decision, recommended

findings of fact, recommended conclusions of law and proposed order; all prehearing and hearing transcripts, exhibits, and rulings; and the motions, briefs, memoranda, and other supporting papers filed in connection with the hearing. The administrative law judge shall serve upon each party the recommended decision, findings, conclusions and proposed order.

§ _____.39 Exceptions to recommended decision.

(a) *Filing exceptions.* Within 30 days after service of the recommended decision, findings, conclusions, and proposed order under § _____.38, a party may file with the Agency Head written exceptions to the administrative law judge's recommended decision, findings, conclusions or proposed order, to the admission or exclusion of evidence, or to the failure of the administrative law judge to make a ruling proposed by a party. A supporting brief may be filed at the time the exceptions are filed, either as part of the same document or in a separate document.

(b) *Effect of failure to file or raise exceptions.* (1) Failure of a party to file exceptions to those matters specified in paragraph (a) of this section within the time prescribed is deemed a waiver of objection thereto.

(2) No exception may be considered by the Agency Head if the party taking exception had an opportunity to raise the same objection, issue, or argument before the administrative law judge and failed to do so.

(c) *Contents.* (1) All exceptions and briefs in support of such exceptions must be confined to the particular matters in, or omissions from, the administrative law judge's recommendations to which that party takes exception.

(2) All exceptions and briefs in support of exceptions or replies must set forth page or paragraph references to the specific parts of the administrative law judge's recommendations to which exception is taken, the page or paragraph references to those portions of the record relied upon to support each exception, and the legal authority relied upon to support each exception.

§ _____.40 Review by Agency Head.

(a) *Notice of submission to Agency Head.* When the Agency Head determines that the record in the proceeding is complete, the Agency Head shall serve notice upon the parties that the proceeding has been submitted to the Agency Head for final decision.

(b) *Oral argument before the Agency Head.* Upon the initiative of the Agency Head or on the written request of any party filed with the Agency Head within the time for filing exceptions, the Agency Head may order and hear oral argument on the recommended findings, conclusions, decision, and order of the administrative law judge. A written request by a party must show good cause for oral argument and state reasons why arguments cannot be presented adequately in writing. A denial of a request for oral argument may be set forth in the Agency Head's final decision. Oral argument before the Agency Head must be on the record.

(c) *Agency final decision.* (1) Decisional employees may advise and assist the Agency Head in the consideration and disposition of the case. The final decision of the Agency Head will be based upon review of the entire record of the proceeding, except that the Agency Head may limit the issues to be reviewed to those findings and conclusions to which opposing arguments or exceptions have been filed by the parties.

(2) The Agency Head shall render a final decision within 90 days after notification of the parties that the case has been submitted for final decision, or 90 days after oral argument, whichever is later, unless the Agency Head orders that the action or any aspect thereof be remanded to the administrative law judge for further proceedings. Copies of the final decision and order of the Agency Head shall be served upon each party to the proceeding, upon other persons required by statute, and, if directed by the Agency Head or required by statute, upon any appropriate state or Federal supervisory authority.

§ _____.41 Stays pending judicial review.

The commencement of proceedings for judicial review of a final decision and order of the Agency may not, unless specifically ordered by the Agency Head or a reviewing court, operate as a stay of any order issued by the Agency Head. The Agency Head may, in its discretion, and on such terms as it finds just, stay the effectiveness of all or any part of its order pending a final decision on a petition for review of that order.

Adoption of Proposed Uniform Rules

The Agency-specific proposals of the Uniform Rules, which appear at the end of the common preamble, appear below. Further, each Agency is proposing Local Rules to supplement the Uniform Rules.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

12 CFR Part 19

List of Subjects in 12 CFR Part 19

Administrative practice and procedure, Crime, Ex parte communications, Hearing procedure, Investigations, National banks, Penalties, Securities.

Authority and Issuance

For the reasons set out in the common preamble, part 19 of chapter I of title 12 of the Code of Federal Regulations, is proposed to be amended as set forth below:

PART 19—RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE

1. The authority citation for part 19 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 12 U.S.C. 1817, 1818, 1820 (secs. 7(j), 8 and 10 of the FDIA; 15 U.S.C. 78*l* (h) and (i), 78o–4(c), 78o–5, 78q–1, 78u, 78u–2, 78u–3, 78w (secs. 12 (h) and (i), 15B(c), 15C, 17A, 21, 21B, 21C and 23 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934); 5 U.S.C. 504, 554–557; 12 U.S.C. 504 and 505 (secs. 29 and 19(*l*) of the Federal Reserve Act); 12 U.S.C. 93(b) and 164 (secs. 5239 and 5213, respectively, of the Revised Statutes); 12 U.S.C. 1972 (sec. 106(b) of the Bank Holding Company Act Amendments of 1970); 12 U.S.C. 3102, 3108(a) (secs. 4 and 22(a) of he International Banking Act of 1978); 12 U.S.C. 3909 (sec. 910 of the International Lending Supervision Act of 1983); 31 U.S.C. 330.

2. Subpart A is revised to read as set forth at the end of the common preamble.

Subpart A—Uniform Rules of Practice and Procedure

Sec.

3. Subparts B through L are revised to read as follows:

Subpart B—Procedural Rules for OCC Adjudications

19.100 Scope.

All materials required to be filed with or referred to the Comptroller or the administrative law judge in any proceedings under this part must be filed with the Hearing Clerk, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Washington, DC 20219. Filings to be made with the Hearing Clerk include the notice and answer; motions and responses to motions; briefs; the record filed by the administrative law judge after the issuance of a recommended decision; the recommended decision filed by the administrative law judge following a motion for summary disposition; referrals by the administrative law judge of motions for interlocutory review; exceptions and requests for oral argument; and any other papers required to be filed with the Comptroller or the administrative law judge under this part.

§ 19.101 Delegation to the Office of Financial Institution Adjudication.

Unless otherwise ordered by the Comptroller, administrative adjudications subject to subpart A of this part shall be conducted by an administrative law judge of the Office of Financial Institution Adjudication (OFIA).

Subpart C—Removals, Suspensions, and Prohibitions When a Crime Is Charged or a Conviction Is Obtained

§ 19.110 Scope.

This subpart applies to informal hearings afforded to any institution-affiliated party who has been suspended or removed from office or prohibited from further participation in bank affairs by a notice or order issued by the Comptroller.

§ 19.111 Suspension or removal.

The Comptroller may serve a notice of suspension or order of removal or prohibition on an institution-affiliated party. A copy of such notice or order will be served on the bank, whereupon the institution-affiliated party involved must immediately cease service to the bank or participation in the affairs of the bank. The notice or order will indicate the basis for suspension, removal or prohibition and will inform the institution-affiliated party of the right to request in writing, to be received by the OCC within 30 days from the date that the institution-affiliated party was served with such notice or order, an opportunity to show at an informal hearing that continued service to or participation in the conduct of the affairs of the bank does not, or is not likely to, pose a threat to the interest of the bank's depositors or threaten to impair public confidence in the bank. The written request must be sent by certified mail to, or served personally with a signed receipt on, the District Administrator in the OCC district in which the bank in question is located, or to the Deputy Comptroller for Multinational Banking, Washington, DC, if the bank is supervised by the Multinational Banking Department. The request must state specifically the relief desired and the grounds on which that relief is based.

§ 19.112 Informal hearing.

(a) *Issuance of hearing order.* After receipt of a request for hearing, the District Administrator or the Deputy Comptroller for Multinational Banking, whichever is appropriate, shall notify the petitioner requesting the hearing and the OCC's Enforcement and Compliance Division of the date, time and place fixed for the hearing. The hearing will be scheduled to be held not later than 30 days from the date when a request for hearing is received, unless the time is extended at the written request of the petitioner. The District Administrator or the Deputy Comptroller for Multinational Banking, whichever is appropriate, shall extend the hearing

date only for a specific period of time and shall take appropriate action to ensure that the hearing is not unduly delayed.

(b) *Appointment of presiding officer.* The Comptroller or the Comptroller's delegate shall appoint one or more OCC employees to preside over the hearing. The presiding official(s) shall not have been involved in the proceeding, a factually related proceeding or the underlying enforcement action in a prosecutorial or investigative role. The OCC's Enforcement and Compliance Division shall appoint an attorney to represent the OCC at the hearing.

(c) *Waiver of oral hearing.* The petitioner may elect to have the matter determined by the presiding officer solely on the basis of written submissions. The petitioner must present the submissions to the presiding officer not later than ten days prior to the hearing, or within such shorter time period as the presiding officer permits, along with a signed document waiving the statutory right to appear and make oral argument.

(d) *Hearing procedures*—(1) *Conduct of hearing.* Hearings under this subpart are not subject to the provisions of subpart A of this part or the adjudicative provisions of the APA (5 U.S.C. 554–557).

(2) *Powers of the presiding officer.* The presiding officer shall determine all procedural issues that are governed by this subpart may permit or limit the number of witnesses and impose time limitations as he or she deems reasonable. The informal hearing will not be governed by the formal rules of evidence. All oral presentations, when permitted, and documents deemed by the presiding officer to be relevant and material to the proceeding and not unduly repetitious will be considered. The presiding officer may ask questions of any person participating in the hearing, and may make any rulings reasonably necessary to facilitate the effective and efficient operation of the hearing.

(3) *Presentation.* (i) The petitioner may appear personally or through counsel at the hearing to present relevant written materials and oral argument. Copies of affidavits, memoranda or other written material to be presented at the hearing must be provided to the presiding officer and to the other parties in the oral argument not later than ten days prior to the hearing, or within such shorter time period as permitted by the presiding officer.

(ii) If the petitioner or the appointed OCC attorney desires to present oral testimony or witnesses at the hearing, they must file a written request with the presiding officer not later than ten days prior to the hearing, or within a shorter time period as permitted by the presiding officer. The names of proposed witnesses should be included, along with the general nature of the expected testimony, and the reasons why oral testimony is necessary. The presiding officer generally will not admit oral testimony or witnesses unless a specific and compelling need is demonstrated. Witnesses, if admitted, shall be sworn.

(iii) In deciding on any suspension, the presiding officer shall not consider the ultimate question of the guilt or innocence of the individual with respect to the criminal charges which are outstanding. In deciding on any removal, the presiding officer shall not consider challenges to or efforts to impeach the validity of the conviction. The presiding officer may consider facts in either situation, however, which show the nature of the events on which the indictment or conviction was based.

(4) *Record.* A verbatim transcript of the proceedings may be taken if the petitioner requests a transcript and agrees to pay all expenses, or if the presiding officer determines that the nature of the case warrants a transcript. The presiding officer may order the record to be kept open for a reasonable period following the hearing, not to exceed five business days, to permit the petitioner or the appointed OCC attorney to submit additional documents for the record. Thereafter, no further submissions may be accepted except for good cause shown.

§ 19.113 Recommended and final decisions.

(a) The presiding officer shall issue a recommended decision to the Comptroller and shall serve promptly a copy of the decision on the parties to the proceeding. The decision shall include a summary of the facts and arguments of the parties. Within ten days of service, parties may submit to the Comptroller comments on the presiding officer's recommended decision.

(b) Within 60 days following the hearing or receipt of the petitioner's written submission, the Comptroller shall notify the petitioner by registered mail as to whether the suspension or removal from office, and prohibition from participation in any manner in the affairs of the bank, will be affirmed, terminated or modified. The Comptroller's decision must include a statement of reasons supporting the decision. The Comptroller's decision is a final and unappealable order.

(c) A finding of not guilty or other disposition of the charge on which a notice of suspension was based does not preclude the Comptroller from thereafter instituting removal proceedings pursuant to section 8(e) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1818(e)) and subpart A of this part.

(d) A removal or prohibition by order remains in effect until terminated by the Comptroller. A suspension or prohibition by notice remains in effect until the criminal charge is disposed of or until terminated by the Comptroller.

(e) A suspended or removed individual may petition the Comptroller to reconsider the decision any time after the expiration of a 12-month period from the date of the decision, but no petition for reconsideration may be made within 12 months of a previous petition. The petition must state specifically the relief sought and the grounds therefor, and may be accompanied by a supporting memorandum and any other documentation the petitioner wishes to have considered. No hearing need be granted on the petition for reconsideration.

Subpart D—Exemption Hearings Under Section 12(h) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

§ 19.120 Scope.

The rules in this subpart apply to informal hearings that may be held by the Comptroller to determine whether, pursuant to authority in sections 12 (h) and (i) of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78*l* (h) and (i)), to exempt in whole or in part an issuer or a class of issuers from the provisions of section 12(g), or from section 13 or 14 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78*l*(g), 78m or 78n), or whether to exempt from section 16 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78p) any officer, director, or beneficial owner of securities of an issuer. The only issuers covered by this subpart are banks whose securities are registered pursuant to section 12(g) of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78*l*(g)). The Comptroller may deny an application for exemption without a hearing.

§ 19.121 Application for exemption.

An issuer or an individual (officer, director or shareholder) may submit a written application for an exemption order to the Securities and Corporate Practices Division, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Washington, DC 20219. The application must specify the type of exemption sought and the reasons therefor, including an explanation of why an exemption would not be inconsistent with the public interest or the protection of investors. The Securities and Corporate Practices Division shall

inform the applicant in writing whether a hearing will be held to consider the matter.

§ 19.122 Newspaper notice.

Upon being informed that an application will be considered at a hearing, the applicant shall publish a notice one time in a newspaper of general circulation in the community where the issuer's main office is located. The notice must state: The name and title of any individual applicants; the type of exemption sought; the fact that a hearing will be held; and a statement that interested persons may submit to the Securities and Corporate Practices Division, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Washington, DC 20219, within 30 days from the date of the newspaper notice, written comments concerning the application and a written request for an opportunity to be heard. The applicant shall promptly furnish a copy of the notice to the Securities and Corporate Practices Division, and to bank shareholders.

§ 19.123 Informal hearing.

(a) *Conduct of proceeding.* The adjudicative provisions of the APA (5 U.S.C. 554–557), formal rules of evidence and subpart A of this part do not apply to hearings conducted under this subpart.

(b) *Notice of hearing.* Following the comment period, the Comptroller shall send a notice which fixes a date, time and place for hearing to each applicant and to any person who has requested an opportunity to be heard.

(c) *Presiding officer.* The Comptroller shall designate a presiding officer to conduct the hearing. The presiding officer shall determine all procedural questions not governed by this subpart, and may limit the number of witnesses and impose time and presentation limitations as are deemed reasonable. At the conclusion of the informal hearing, the presiding officer shall issue a recommended decision to the Comptroller as to whether the exemption should issue. The decision shall include a summary of the facts and arguments of the parties.

(d) *Attendance.* The applicant and any person who has requested an opportunity to be heard may attend the hearing, with or without counsel. The hearing shall be open to the public. In addition, the applicant and any other hearing participant may introduce oral testimony through such witnesses as the presiding officer shall permit.

(e) *Order of presentation.* (1) The applicant may present an opening statement of a length decided by the presiding officer. Then each of the hearing participants, or one among them selected with the approval of the presiding officer, may present an opening statement. The opening statement should summarize concisely what the applicant and each participant intends to show.

(2) The applicant shall have an opportunity to make an oral presentation of facts and materials or submit written materials for the record. One or more of the hearing participants may make an oral presentation or a written submission.

(3) After the above presentations, the applicant, followed by one or more of the hearing participants, may make concise summary statements reviewing their position.

(f) *Witnesses.* The obtaining and use of witnesses is the responsibility of the parties afforded the hearing. All witnesses shall be present on their own volition, but any person appearing as a witness may be questioned by each applicant, any hearing participant, and the presiding officer. Witnesses shall be sworn unless otherwise directed by the presiding officer.

(g) *Evidence.* The presiding officer may exclude data or materials deemed to be improper or irrelevant. Formal rules of evidence do not apply. Documentary material must be of a size consistent with ease of handling and filing. The presiding officer may determine the number of copies that must be furnished for purposes of the hearing.

(h) *Transcript.* A transcript of each proceeding will be arranged by the OCC, with all expenses, including the furnishing of a copy to the presiding officer, being borne by the applicant.

§ 19.124 Decision of the Comptroller.

Following the conclusion of the hearing and the submission of the record and the presiding officer's recommended decision to the Comptroller for decision, the Comptroller or the Comptroller's delegate shall notify the applicant and all persons who have so requested in writing of the final disposition of the application. Exemptions granted must be in the form of an order which specifies the type of exemption granted and its terms and conditions.

Subpart E—Disciplinary Proceedings Involving the Federal Securities Laws

§ 19.130 Scope.

(a) Except as provided in this subpart, subpart A of this part applies to proceedings by the Comptroller to determine whether, pursuant to authority contained in sections 15B(c)(5), 15C(c)(2)(A), 17A(c)(3), and 17A(c)(4)(C) of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78o–4(c)(5), 78o–5(c)(2)(A), 78q–1(c)(3)(A), and 78q–1(c)(4)(C)), to take disciplinary action against the following:

(1) A bank which is a municipal securities dealer, or any person associated or seeking to become associated with such a municipal securities dealer;

(2) A bank which is a government securities broker or dealer, or any person associated with such government securities broker or dealer; or

(3) A bank which is a transfer agent, or any person associated or seeking to become associated with such transfer agent.

(b) In addition to the issuance of disciplinary orders after opportunity for hearing, the Comptroller or the Comptroller's delegate may issue and serve any notices and temporary or permanent cease-and-desist orders and take any actions that are authorized by section 8 of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1816), sections 15B(c)(5), 15C(c)(2)(B), and 17A(d)(2) of the Exchange Act, and other subparts of this part against the following:

(1) The parties listed in paragraph (a) of this section; and

(2) A bank which is a clearing agency.

(c) Nothing in this part impairs the powers conferred on the Comptroller by other provisions of law.

§ 19.131 Notice of charges and answer.

(a) Proceedings are commenced when the Comptroller serves a notice of charges on a bank or associated person. The notice must indicate the type of disciplinary action being contemplated and the grounds therefor, and fix a date, time and place for hearing. The hearing must be set for a date at least 30 days after service of the notice. A party served with a notice of charges may file an answer as prescribed in § 19.19. Any party who fails to appear at a hearing personally or by a duly authorized representative shall be deemed to have consented to the issuance of a disciplinary order.

(b) All proceedings under this subpart must be commenced, and the notice of charges must be filed, on a public basis, unless otherwise ordered by the Comptroller. Pursuant to § 19.33(b), a request for a private hearing may be filed within 20 days of service of the notice.

§ 19.132 Disciplinary orders.

(a) In the event of consent, or if on the record filed by the presiding officer, the Comptroller finds that any act or omission or violation specified in the notice of charges has been established,

the Comptroller or the Comptroller's delegate may serve on the bank or persons concerned a disciplinary order, as provided in the Exchange Act. The order may:

(1) Censure, limit the activities, functions or operations, or suspend or revoke the registration of a bank which is a municipal securities dealer;

(2) Censure, suspend or bar any person associated or seeking to become associated with a municipal securities dealer;

(3) Censure, limit the activities, functions or operations, or suspend or bar a bank which is a government securities broker or dealer;

(4) Censure, limit the activities, functions or operations, or suspend or bar any person associated with a government securities broker or dealer;

(5) Deny registration to, limit the activities, functions, or operations or suspend or revoke the registration of a bank which is a transfer agent; or

(6) Censure or limit the activities or functions, or suspend or bar, any person associated or seeking to become associated with a transfer agent.

(b) A disciplinary order is effective when served on the party or parties involved and remains effective and enforceable until it is stayed, modified, terminated, or set aside by action of the Comptroller or a reviewing court.

Subpart F—Civil Money Penalty Authority Under the Securities Laws

§ 19.140 Scope.

(a) Except as provided in this subpart, subpart A of this part applies to proceedings by the Comptroller to determine whether, pursuant to authority contained in section 21B of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78u–2), in proceedings commenced pursuant to sections 15B, 15C, and 17A of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78o–4, 78o–5, or 78q–1) for which the OCC is the appropriate regulatory agency under section 3(a)(34) of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78c(a)(34)), the Comptroller may impose a civil money penalty against the following:

(1) A bank which is a municipal securities dealer, or any person associated or seeking to become associated with such a municipal securities dealer;

(2) A bank which is a government securities broker or dealer, or any person associated with such government securities broker or dealer; or

(3) A bank which is a transfer agent, or any person associated or seeking to become associated with such transfer agent.

(b) All proceedings under this subpart must be commenced, and the notice of assessment must be filed, on a public basis, unless otherwise ordered by the Comptroller. Pursuant to § 19.33(b), a request for a private hearing may be filed within 20 days of service of the notice.

Subpart G—Cease-and-Desist Authority Under the Securities Laws

§ 19.150 Scope.

(a) Except as provided in this subpart, subpart A of this part applies to proceedings by the Comptroller to determine whether, pursuant to authority contained in sections 12(i) and 21C of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78*l*(i) and 78u–3), the Comptroller may initiate cease-and-desist proceedings against a national bank for violations of sections 12, 13, 14(a), 14(c), 14(d), 14(f), and 16 of the Exchange Act or regulations or rules issued thereunder (15 U.S.C. 78*l*, 78m, 78n(a), 78n(c), 78n(d), 78n(f), and 78p).

(b) All proceedings under this subpart must be commenced, and the notice of charges must be filed, on a public basis, unless otherwise ordered by the Comptroller. Pursuant to § 19.33(b), a request for a private hearing may be filed within 20 days of service of the notice.

Subpart H—Change In Bank Control

§ 19.260 Scope.

(a) Section 7(j) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)) provides that no person may acquire control of an insured depository institution unless the appropriate Federal bank regulatory agency has been given prior written notice of the proposed acquisition. If, after investigating and soliciting comment on the proposed acquisition, the agency decides that the acquisition should be disapproved, the agency shall notify the acquiring party in writing within three days of the decision. The party can then request an agency hearing on the proposed acquisition. The OCC's procedures for reviewing notices of proposed acquisitions in change-in-control proceedings are set forth at 12 CFR 5.50.

(b) Unless otherwise provided in this subpart, the rules in subpart A of this part set forth the procedures applicable to requests for OCC hearings.

§ 19.161 Hearing request and answer.

(a) *Hearing request.* (1) The OCC's written disapproval of a proposed acquisition of control of a national bank, must—

(i) Contain a statement of the basis for the disapproval; and

(ii) Indicate that—

(A) A hearing may be requested by filing a written request with the Comptroller within ten days after service of the notice of disapproval; and

(B) If a hearing is requested, that an answer to the notice of disapproval must be filed within 20 days after service of the notice of disapproval.

(b) *Answer.* An answer to the notice of disapproval must specifically deny those portions of the notice of disapproval which are disputed. Those portions of the notice which are not specifically denied are deemed admitted by the applicant. Any hearing under this subpart shall be limited to those parts of the notice that are specifically denied.

(c) *Waiver of hearing.* Failure to request a hearing pursuant to this section or to file an answer constitutes a waiver of the opportunity for a hearing, and the notice of disapproval constitutes a final and unappealable order.

§ 19.162 Hearing order.

Upon receipt of a request for hearing and an answer pursuant to § 19.161, the Comptroller or the Comptroller's designee shall issue an order setting forth the legal authority for the OCC's jurisdiction over the proceeding and shall address the request for hearing.

Subpart I—Discovery Depositions and Subpoenas

§ 19.170 Discovery depositions.

(a) *General rule.* A party may take the deposition of an expert, or of a person, including another party, who has direct knowledge of matters that are non-privileged, relevant, and material to the proceeding, and where there is need for the deposition. The deposition of experts shall be limited to those experts who are expected to testify at the hearing.

(b) *Notice.* A party desiring to take a deposition shall give reasonable notice in writing to the deponent and to every other party to the proceeding. The notice must state the time and place for taking the deposition, and the name and address of the person to be deposed.

(c) *Time limits.* A party may take depositions at any time after the commencement of the proceeding, but no later than ten days before the scheduled hearing date, except with permission of the administrative law judge for good cause shown.

(d) *Conduct of the deposition.* The witness shall be duly sworn, and each party shall have the right to examine the witness with respect to all non-privileged, relevant, and material matters of which the witness has factual, direct, and personal knowledge. Objections to questions or exhibits shall

be in short form, stating the grounds for the objection. Failure to object to questions or exhibits is not a waiver except where the grounds for the objection might have been avoided if the objection had been timely presented. The court reporter shall transcribe or otherwise record the witness's testimony, as agreed among the parties.

(e) *Protective orders.* At any time after notice of a deposition has been given, a party may file a motion for the issuance of a protective order. Such protective order may prohibit, terminate, or limit the scope or manner of the taking of a deposition. The administrative law judge shall grant such protective order upon a showing of sufficient grounds, including that the deposition:

(1) Is unreasonable, oppressive, excessive in scope, or unduly burdensome;

(2) Involves privileged, irrelevant, or immaterial matters;

(3) Involves unwarranted attempts to pry into a party's preparation for trial; or

(4) Is being conducted in bad faith or in such manner as to unreasonably annoy, embarrass, or oppress the witness.

(f) *Fees.* Deposition witnesses, including expert witnesses, shall be paid the same expenses in the same manner as are paid witnesses in the district courts of the United States in proceedings in which the United States is a party. Expenses in accordance with this paragraph shall be paid by the party seeking to take the deposition.

§ 19.171 Deposition subpoenas.

(a) *Issuance.* At the request of a party, the administrative law judge shall issue a subpoena requiring the attendance of a witness at a deposition. The attendance of a witness may be required from any place in any state or territory that is subject to the jurisdiction of the United States or as otherwise permitted by law.

(b) *Service.* The party requesting the subpoena shall serve it on the person named therein, or on that person's counsel, by personal service, certified mail, or overnight delivery service. The party serving the subpoena shall file proof of service with the administrative law judge.

(c) *Motion to quash.* A person named in a subpoena may file a motion to quash or modify the subpoena. A statement of the reasons for the motion must accompany it and a copy of the motion must be served on the party which requested the subpoena. The motion must be made prior to the time for compliance specified in the subpoena and not more than ten days after the date of service of the subpoena, or if the subpoena is served within 15 days of the hearing, within five days after the date of service.

(d) *Enforcement of deposition subpoena.* Enforcement of a deposition subpoena shall be in accordance with the procedures of § 19.27(d).

Subpart J—Formal Investigations

§ 19.180 Scope.

This subpart and § 19.8 apply to formal investigations initiated by order of the Comptroller or the Comptroller's delegate and pertain to the exercise of powers specified in 12 U.S.C. 481, 1818(n) and 1820(c), and section 21 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78u). This subpart does not restrict or in any way affect the authority of the Comptroller to conduct examinations into the affairs or ownership of banks and their affiliates.

§ 19.181 Confidentiality of formal investigations.

Information or documents obtained in the course of a formal investigation are confidential and may be disclosed only in accordance with the provisions of part 4 of this chapter.

§ 19.182 Order to conduct a formal investigation.

A formal investigation begins with the issuance of an order signed by the Comptroller or the Comptroller's delegate. The order must designate the person or persons who will conduct the investigation. Such persons are authorized, among other things, to issue subpoenas duces tecum, to administer oaths, and receive affirmations as to any matter under investigation by the Comptroller. Upon application and for good cause shown, the Comptroller may limit, modify, or withdraw the order at any stage of the proceedings.

§ 19.183 Rights of witnesses.

(a) Any person who is compelled or requested to furnish testimony, documentary evidence, or other information with respect to any matter under formal investigation shall, on request, be shown the order initiating the investigation.

(b) Any person who, in a formal investigation, is compelled to appear and testify, or who appears and testifies by request or permission of the Comptroller, may be accompanied, represented, and advised by counsel. The right to be accompanied, represented, and advised by counsel means the right of a person testifying to have an attorney present at all times while testifying and to have the attorney—

(1) Advise the person before, during and after the conclusion of testimony;

(2) Question the person briefly at the conclusion of testimony to clarify any of the answers given; and

(3) Make summary notes during the testimony solely for the use of the person.

(c) Any person who has given or will give testimony and counsel representing the person may be excluded from the proceedings during the taking of testimony of any other witness.

(d) Any person who is compelled to give testimony is entitled to inspect any transcript that has been made of the testimony but may not obtain a copy if the Comptroller's representatives conducting the proceedings have cause to believe that the contents should not be disclosed pending completion of the investigation.

(e) Any designated representative conducting an investigative proceeding shall report to the Comptroller any instances where a person has been guilty of dilatory, obstructionist or insubordinate conduct during the course of the proceeding or any other instance involving a violation of this part. The Comptroller may take such action as the circumstances warrant, including exclusion of the offending individual or individuals from participation in the proceedings.

§ 19.184 Service of subpoena and payment of witness fees.

A subpoena may be served on the person named therein, or such person's attorney, by personal service or certified mail. A witness who is subpoenaed will be paid the same expenses in the same manner as witnesses in the district courts of the United States. The expenses need not be tendered at the time a subpoena is served.

Subpart K—Parties and Representational Practice Before the OCC; Standards of Conduct

§ 19.190 Scope.

This subpart contains rules relating to parties and representational practice before the OCC. These rules include the imposition of sanctions by the administrative law judge, any other presiding officer, or the Comptroller against parties or their counsel in an adjudicatory proceeding under this part. They also cover other disciplinary sanctions—censure, suspension or debarment—against individuals who appear before the OCC in a representational capacity either in an adjudicatory proceeding under this part or in any other matters connected with

presentations to the OCC relating to a client's rights, privileges, or liabilities. This representation includes, but is not limited to, the practice of attorneys and accountants. Employees of the OCC are not subject to disciplinary proceedings under this subpart.

§ 19.191 Sanctions relating to conduct in an adjudicatory proceeding.

(a) *General rule.* Appropriate sanctions may be imposed when any party or person representing a party in an adjudicatory proceeding under this part has failed to comply with an applicable statute, regulation, or order, and that failure to comply:

(1) Constitutes contemptuous conduct;

(2) Materially injures or prejudices another party in terms of substantive injury, incurring additional expenses including attorney's fees, prejudicial delay, or otherwise;

(3) Is a clear and unexcused violation of an applicable statute, regulation, or order; or

(4) Unduly delays the proceeding.

(b) *Sanctions.* Sanctions which may be imposed include any one or more of the following:

(1) Issuing an order against the party;

(2) Rejecting or striking any testimony or documentary evidence offered, or other papers filed, by the party;

(3) Precluding the party from contesting specific issues or findings;

(4) Precluding the party from offering certain evidence or from challenging or contesting certain evidence offered by another party;

(5) Precluding the party from making a late filing or conditioning a late filing on any terms that are just; and

(6) Assessing reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees, incurred by any other party as a result of the improper action or failure to act.

(c) *Procedure for imposition of sanctions.* (1) Upon the motion of any party, or on his or her own motion, the administrative law judge or other presiding officer may impose sanctions in accordance with this section. The administrative law judge or other presiding officer shall submit to the Comptroller for final ruling any sanction entering a final order that determines the case on the merits.

(2) No sanction authorized by this section, other than refusal to accept late filings, shall be imposed without prior notice to all parties and an opportunity for any party against whom sanctions would be imposed to be heard. Such opportunity to be heard may be on such notice, and the response may be in such form as the administrative law judge or other presiding officer directs. The administrative law judge or other presiding officer may limit the opportunity to be heard to an opportunity of a party or a party's representative to respond orally immediately after the act or inaction covered by this section is noted by the administrative law judge or other presiding officer.

(3) Requests for the imposition of sanctions by any party, and the imposition of sanctions, are subject to interlocutory review pursuant to § 19.25 in the same manner as any other ruling.

(d) *Section not exclusive.* Nothing in this section shall be read as precluding the administrative law judge or other presiding officer or the Comptroller from taking any other action, or imposing any restriction or sanction, authorized by applicable statute or regulation.

§ 19.192 Censure, suspension or debarment.

The Comptroller may censure an individual or suspend or debar such individual from practice before the OCC if he or she is incompetent in representing a client's rights or interest in a significant matter before the OCC; or engages, or has engaged, in disreputable conduct; or refuses to comply with the rules and regulations in this part; or with intent to defraud in any manner, willfully and knowingly deceives, misleads, or threatens any client or prospective client. The suspension or debarment of an individual may be initiated only upon a finding by the Comptroller that the basis for the disciplinary action is sufficiently egregious.

§ 19.193 Definitions.

As used in §§ 19.190 through 19.201, the following terms shall have the meaning given in this section unless the context otherwise requires:

(a)(1) *Practice before the OCC* includes any matters connected with presentations to the OCC or any of its officers or employees relating to a client's rights, privileges or liabilities under laws or regulations administered by the OCC. Such matters include, but are not limited to, representation of a client in an adjudicatory proceeding under this part; the preparation of any statement, opinion or other paper or document by an attorney, accountant, or other licensed professional which is filed with, or submitted to, the OCC, on behalf of another person in, or in connection with, any application, notification, report or document; the representation of a person at conferences, hearings and meetings; and the transaction of other business before the OCC on behalf of another person.

(2) *Practice before the OCC* does not include work prepared for a bank solely at its request for use in the ordinary course of its business.

(b) *Attorney* means any individual who is a member in good standing of the bar of the highest court of any state, possession, territory, commonwealth, of the United States or the District of Columbia.

(c) *Accountant* means any individual who is duly qualified to practice as a certified public accountant or a public accountant in any state, possession, territory, commonwealth of the United States, or the District of Columbia.

§ 19.194 Eligibility to practice.

(a) *Attorneys.* Any attorney who is qualified to practice as an attorney and is not currently under suspension or debarment pursuant to this subpart may practice before the OCC.

(b) *Accountants.* Any accountant who is qualified to practice as a certified public accountant or public accountant and is not currently under suspension or debarment by the OCC may practice before the OCC.

§ 19.195 Incompetence.

Incompetence in the representation of a client's rights and interests in a significant matter before the OCC is grounds for suspension or debarment. The term "incompetence" encompasses conduct that reflects a lack of the knowledge, judgment and skill that a professional would ordinarily and reasonably be expected to exercise in adequately representing the rights and interests of a client. Such conduct includes, but is not limited to:

(a) Handling a matter which the individual knows or should know that he or she is not competent to handle, without associating with a professional who is competent to handle such matter.

(b) Handling a matter without adequate preparation under the circumstances.

(c) Neglect in a matter entrusted to him or her.

§ 19.196 Disreputable conduct.

Disreputable conduct for which an individual may be censured, debarred or suspended from practice before the OCC includes, but is not limited to:

(a) Willfully violating or willfully aiding and abetting the violation of any provision of the Federal banking or applicable securities laws or the rules and regulations thereunder or conviction of any offense involving dishonesty or breach of trust.

(b) Knowingly giving false or misleading information, or participating

in any way in the giving of false information to the OCC or any officer or employee thereof, or to any tribunal authorized to pass upon matters administered by the OCC in connection with any matter pending or likely to be pending before it. The term "information" includes facts or other statements contained in testimony, financial statements, applications for enrollment, affidavits, declarations, or any other document or written or oral statement.

(c) Directly or indirectly attempting to influence, or offering or agreeing to attempt to influence, the official action of any officer or employee of the OCC by the use of threats, false accusations, duress or coercion, by the offer of any special inducement or promise of advantage or by the bestowing of any gift, favor, or thing of value.

(d) Disbarment or suspension from practice as an attorney, or debarment or suspension from practice as a certified public accountant or public accountant, by any duly constituted authority of any state, possession, or commonwealth of the United States, or the District of Columbia for the conviction of a felony or misdemeanor involving moral turpitude in matters relating to the supervisory responsibilities of the OCC, where the conviction has not been reversed on appeal.

(e) Knowingly aiding or abetting another individual to practice before the OCC during that individual's period of suspension, debarment, or ineligibility.

(f) Contemptuous conduct in connection with practice before the OCC, and knowingly making false accusations and statements, or circulating or publishing malicious or libelous matter.

(g) Suspension or debarment from practice before the Board of Governors, the FDIC, the OTS, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, or any other Federal agency based on matters relating to the supervisory responsibilities of the OCC.

(h) Willful violation of any of the regulations contained in this part.

§ 19.197 Initiation of disciplinary proceeding.

(a) *Receipt of information.* An individual, including any employee of the OCC, who has reason to believe that an individual practicing before the OCC in a representative capacity has engaged in any conduct that would serve as a basis for censure, suspension or debarment under § 19.192, may make a report thereof and forward it to the OCC or to such person as may be delegated responsibility for such matters by the Comptroller.

(b) *Censure without formal proceeding.* Upon receipt of information regarding an individual's qualification to practice before the OCC, the Comptroller or the Comptroller's delegate may, after giving the individual notice and opportunity to respond, censure such individual.

(c) Institution of formal disciplinary proceeding. When the Comptroller or the Comptroller's delegate has reason to believe that any individual who practices before the OCC in a representative capacity has engaged in conduct that would serve as a basis for censure, suspension or debarment under § 19.192, the Comptroller or the Comptroller's delegate may, after giving the individual notice and opportunity to respond, institute a formal disciplinary proceeding against such individual. The proceeding will be conducted pursuant to § 19.199 and initiated by a complaint which names the individual as a respondent and is signed by the Comptroller or the Comptroller's delegate. Except in cases of willfulness, or when time, the nature of the proceeding, or the public interest do not permit, a proceeding under this section may not be commenced until the respondent has been informed, in writing, of the facts or conduct which warrant institution of a proceeding and the respondent has been accorded the opportunity to comply with all lawful requirements or take whatever action may be necessary to remedy the conduct that is the basis for the commencement of the proceeding.

§ 19.198 Conferences.

(a) *General.* The Comptroller or the Comptroller's delegate may confer with a proposed respondent concerning allegations of misconduct or other grounds for censure, debarment or suspension, regardless of whether a proceeding for debarment or suspension has been commenced. If a conference results in a stipulation in connection with a proceeding in which the individual is the respondent, the stipulation may be entered in the record at the request of either party to the proceeding.

(b) *Resignation or voluntary suspension.* In order to avoid the institution of, or a decision in, a debarment or suspension proceeding, a person who practices before the OCC may consent to suspension from practice. At the discretion of the Comptroller or the Comptroller's delegate, the individual may be suspended or debarred in accordance with the consent offered.

§ 19.199 Proceedings under this subpart.

Any hearing held under this subpart are held before a presiding officer who is an administrative law judge pursuant to procedures set forth in subpart A of this part. The Comptroller or the Comptroller's delegate shall appoint a person to represent the OCC in the hearing. Any person having prior involvement in the matter which is the basis for the suspension or debarment proceeding is disqualified from representing the OCC in the hearing. The hearing will be closed to the public unless the Comptroller on his or her own initiative, or on the request of a party, otherwise directs. The presiding officer shall issue a recommended decision to the Comptroller who shall issue the final decision and order. The Comptroller may censure, debar or suspend an individual, or take such other disciplinary action as the Comptroller deems appropriate.

§ 19.200 Effect of suspension, debarment or censure.

(a) *Debarment.* If the final order against the respondent is for debarment, the individual may not practice before the OCC unless otherwise permitted to do so by the Comptroller.

(b) *Suspension.* If the final order against the respondent is for suspension, the individual may not practice before the OCC during the period of suspension.

(c) *Censure.* If the final order against the respondent is for censure, the individual may be permitted to practice before the OCC, but such individual's future representations may be subject to conditions designed to promote high standards of conduct. If a written letter of censure is issued, a copy will be maintained in the OCC's files.

(d) *Notice of debarment or suspension.* Upon the issuance of a final order for suspension or debarment, the Comptroller or the Comptroller's delegate shall give notice of the order to appropriate officers and employees of the OCC and to interested departments and agencies of the Federal Government. The Comptroller or the Comptroller's delegate shall also give notice to the appropriate authorities of the state in which any debarred or suspended individual is or was licensed to practice.

§ 19.201 Petition for reinstatement.

At the expiration of the period of time designated in the order of debarment, the Comptroller may entertain a petition for reinstatement from any person debarred from practice before the OCC. The Comptroller may grant

reinstatement only if satisfied that the petitioner is likely to act in accordance with the regulations in this part, and that granting reinstatement would not be contrary to the public interest. Any request for reinstatement shall be limited to written submissions unless the Comptroller, in his or her discretion, affords the petitioner a hearing.

Subpart L—Equal Access to Justice Act

§ 19.210 Scope.

The Equal Access to Justice Act regulations applicable to formal OCC adjudicatory proceedings under this part are set forth at 31 CFR part 6.

4. Subparts M through O are removed.

Dated: June 5, 1991.

Robert B. Serino,

Deputy Chief Counsel (Policy).

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

12 CFR Part 263

List of Subjects in 12 CFR Part 263

Administrative practice and procedure; Banks, banking; Equal access to justice; Federal Reserve System; Hearing and appeal procedures; Penalties.

Authority and Issuance

For the reasons set out in the common preamble, part 263 of chapter II of title 12 of the Code of Federal Regulations is proposed to be amended as set forth below:

PART 263—RULES OF PRACTICE FOR HEARINGS

1. The authority citation for part 263 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: Sections 9, 11(i), 19 and 29 of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 324, 248, 504, and 505); sections 5(b), 8(b) and 8(d) of the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1884(b), 1847(b) and 1847(d)); section 106(b)(2)(F) of the Bank Holding Company Act Amendments of 1970, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1972(2)(F)); sections 7(j), 8 and 18(c) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1817(j), 1818 and 2828(c)); section 13 of the International Banking Act of 1978 (12 U.S.C. 308); sections 15B(c)(5), 15C(c)(2), and 21B of the Securities Exchange Act of 1984, as amended (15 U.S.C. 78o–4, 78o–5, and 78u–2); section 11 of the Clayton Act, as amended (15 U.S.C. 21); section 203(c) of the Equal Access to Justice Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. 504); and sections 908 and 910 of the International Lending Supervision Act of 1983 (12 U.S.C. 3907 and 3909).

2. Subpart A is revised to read as set forth at the end of the common preamble.

Subpart A—Uniform Rules of Practice and Procedure

3. Subparts B through D are revised and new subparts E through G are added to read as follows:

Subpart B—Board of Governors Local Rules Supplementing the Uniform Rules

Subpart C—Procedures for Assessment of Civil Money Penalties

Subpart D—Rules and Procedures Applicable to Suspension of Removal of an Institution-Affiliated Party Where a Felony Is Charged or Proven

Subpart E—Procedures for Issuance and Enforcement of Directives To Maintain Adequate Capital

Subpart F—Practice Before the Board

Subpart G—Rules Regarding Claims Under the Equal Access to Justice Act

Subpart B—Board of Governors Local Rules Supplementing the Uniform Rules

§ 263.50 Purpose and scope.

(a) This subpart prescribes the rules of practice and procedure governing formal adjudications set forth in § 263.50(b) of this subpart, and supplements the rules of practice and procedure contained in subpart A of this part.

(b) The rules and procedures of this subpart and subpart A of this part shall apply to the formal adjudications set forth in § 263.1 of subpart A and to the following adjudications:

(1) Suspension of a member bank from use of credit facilities of the Federal Reserve System under section 4 of the FRA (12 U.S.C. 301);

(2) Termination of a bank's membership in the Federal Reserve System under section 9 of the FRA (12 U.S.C. 327);

(3) Issuance of a cease-and-desist order under section 11 of the Clayton Act (15 U.S.C. 21);

(4) Formal adjudications on bank merger applications under section 18(c) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1828(c));

(5) Issuance of a divestiture order under section 5(e) of the BHCA (12 U.S.C. 1844(e));

(6) Imposition of sanctions upon any municipal securities dealer for which the Board is the appropriate regulatory agency, or upon any person associated or seeking to become associated with such a municipal securities dealer, under section 15B(c)(5) of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78o–4); and

(7) Proceedings where the Board otherwise orders that a formal hearing be held.

§ 263.51 Definitions.

As used in subparts B through G of this part:

(a) *Board* means the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System;

(b) *Secretary* means the Secretary of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

§ 263.52 Address for filing.

All papers to be filed with the Board shall be filed with the Secretary of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, DC 20551.

§ 263.53 Discovery depositions.

(a) *In general.* In addition to the discovery permitted in subpart A of this part, limited discovery by means of depositions shall be allowed for certain individuals with knowledge of facts material to the proceeding that are not protected from discovery by any applicable privilege. In the ordinary case, accordingly, depositions will not be taken of individuals other than those identified as hearing witnesses or experts. All discovery depositions must be completed within the time set forth in § 263.24(d).

(b) *Application.* A party who desires to take a deposition of any other party's proposed witnesses or any expert, shall apply to the administrative law judge for the issuance of a discovery subpoena or subpoena duces tecum. The application shall state: The name and address of the proposed deponent, the subject matter of the testimony expected from the deponent and its relevancy to the proceeding, and the address of the place and the time, no sooner than ten days after the service of the subpoena, for the taking of the deposition. Any such application shall be treated as a motion subject to the rules governing motions practice set forth in § 263.23.

(c) *Issuance of subpoena.* The administrative law judge shall issue the requested deposition subpoena or subpoena duces tecum upon a finding that the application satisfies the requirements of this section and § 263.24. If the administrative law judge determines that the taking of the deposition or its proposed location is, in whole or in part, unnecessary, unreasonable, oppressive, excessive in scope or unduly burdensome, he or she may deny the application or may grant it upon such conditions as justice may require. The party obtaining the deposition subpoena or subpoena duces tecum shall be responsible for serving it on the deponent and all parties to the proceeding in accordance with § 263.11.

(d) *Motion to quash or modify.* A person named in a deposition subpoena or subpoena duces tecum may file a motion to quash or modify the subpoena, including the issuance of a protective order, within at least ten days after service of the subpoena, but in all cases at least five days prior to the commencement of the scheduled deposition. A statement of the reasons for granting the motion must accompany it and a copy of the motion and the statement must be served on party which requested the subpoena. Only the party requesting the subpoena may file a response to a motion to quash or modify, and such response shall be filed within five days of service of the motion.

(e) *Enforcement of a deposition subpoena.* Enforcement of a deposition subpoena shall be in accordance with the procedures set forth in § 263.27(d).

(f) *Conduct of the deposition.* The deponent shall be duly sworn, and each party shall have the right to examine the witness with respect to all non-privileged, relevant and material matters. Objections to questions or evidence shall be in the short form, stating the ground for the objection. Failure to object to questions or evidence shall not be deemed a waiver except where the grounds for the objection might have been avoided if the objection had been timely presented. The discovery deposition shall be transcribed or otherwise recorded as agreed among the parties.

(g) *Protective orders.* At any time during the taking of a discovery deposition, on the motion of any party or of the deponent, the administrative law judge may terminate or limit the scope and manner of the deposition upon a finding of sufficient ground. Grounds for terminating or limiting the taking of a discovery deposition include a finding that the discovery deposition is being conducted in bad faith or in such a manner as to:

(1) Unreasonably annoy, embarrass, or oppress the deponent;

(2) Unreasonably probe into privilege, irrelevant or immaterial matters; or

(3) Unreasonably attempt to pry into a party's preparation for trial.

§ 263.54 Delegation to the Office of Financial Institution Adjudication.

Unless otherwise ordered by the Board, administrative adjudications subject to subpart A of this part shall be conducted by an administrative law judge of the OFIA.

Subpart C—Procedures for Assessment of Civil Money Penalties

§ 263.60 Scope.

The Uniform Rules set forth in subpart A of this part shall govern the procedures for assessment of civil money penalties, except as otherwise provided in this subpart.

§ 263.61 Opportunity for informal proceeding.

In the sole discretion of the Board's General Counsel, the General Counsel may, prior to the issuance by the Board of a notice of assessment of civil penalty, advise the affected person that the issuance of a notice of assessment of civil penalty is being considered and the reasons and authority for the proposed assessment. The General Counsel may provide the person an opportunity to present written materials or request a conference with members of the Board's staff to show that the penalty should not be assessed or, if assessed, should be reduced in amount.

§ 263.62 Relevant considerations for assessment of civil penalty.

In determining the amount of the penalty to be assessed, the Board shall take into account the appropriateness of the penalty with respect to the financial resources and good faith of the person charged, the gravity of the misconduct, the history of previous misconduct, the economic benefit derived by the person from the misconduct, and such other matters as justice may require.

§ 263.63 Assessment order.

(a) In the event of consent to an assessment by the person concerned, or if, upon the record made at an administrative hearing, the Board finds that the grounds for having assessed the penalty have been established, the Board may issue a final order of assessment of civil penalty. In its final

order, the Board may modify the amount of the penalty specified in the notice of assessment.

(b) An assessment order is effective immediately upon issuance, or upon such other date as may be specified therein, and shall remain effective and enforceable until it is stayed, modified, terminated, or set aside by action of the Board or a reviewing court.

§ 263.64 Payment of civil penalty.

(a) The date designated in the notice of assessment for payment of the civil penalty will normally be 60 days from the issuance of the notice. If, however, the Board finds in a specific case that the purposes of the authorizing statute would be better served if the 60-day period is changed, the Board may shorten or lengthen the period or make the civil penalty payable immediately upon receipt of the notice of assessment. If a timely request for a formal hearing to challenge an assessment of civil penalty is filed, payment of the penalty shall not be required unless and until the Board issues a final order of assessment following the hearing. If an assessment order is issued, it will specify the date by which the civil penalty should be paid or collected.

(b) Checks in payment of civil penalties should be made payable to the "Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System." Upon collection, the Board shall forward the amount of the penalty to the Treasury of the United States.

Subpart D— Rules and Procedures Applicable to Suspension or Removal of an Institution-Affiliated Party Where a Felony Is Charged or Proven

§ 263.70 Purpose and scope.

The rules and procedures set forth in this subpart apply to informal hearings afforded to any institution-affiliated party for whom the Board is the appropriate regulatory agency, who has been suspended from office or prohibited from further participation in any manner in the conduct of the institution's affairs by a notice or order issued by the Board upon the grounds set forth in section 8(g) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1818(g)).

§ 263.71 Notice or order of suspension, removal, or prohibition.

(a) *Grounds.* The Board may suspend an institution-affiliated party from office or prohibit an institution-affiliated party from further participation in any manner in the conduct of an institution's affairs when the person is charged in any information, indictment, or complaint authorized by a United States attorney with the commission of, or participation in, a crime involving dishonesty or breach of trust that is punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year under State or Federal law. The Board may remove an institution-affiliated party from office or prohibit an institution-affiliated party from further participation in any manner in the conduct of an institution's affairs when the person is convicted of such an offense and the conviction is not subject to further direct appellate review. The Board may suspend or remove an institution-affiliated party or prohibit an institution-affiliated party from participation in an institution's affairs in these circumstances if the Board finds that continued service to the financial institution or participation in its affairs by the institution-affiliated party may pose a threat to the interests of the institution's depositors or may threaten to impair public confidence in the financial institution.

(b) *Contents.* The Board commences a suspension, removal, or prohibition action under this subpart with the issuance, and service upon a institution-affiliated party, of a notice of suspension from office, or order of removal from office, or notice or order of prohibition from participation in the financial institution's affairs. Such a notice or order shall indicate the basis for the suspension, removal, or prohibition and shall inform the institution-affiliated party of the right to request in writing, within 30 days of service of the notice or order, an opportunity to show at an informal hearing that continued service to, or participation in the conduct of the affairs of, the financial institution does not and is not likely to pose a threat to the interests of the financial institution's depositors or threaten to impair public confidence in the financial institution. Failure to file a timely request for an informal hearing shall be deemed to be a waiver of the right to request such a hearing. A notice of suspension or prohibition shall remain in effect until the criminal charge upon which the notice is based is finally disposed of or until the notice is terminated by the Board.

(c) *Service.* The notice or order shall be served upon the financial institution concerned, whereupon the institution-affiliated party shall immediately cease service to the financial institution or further participation in any manner in the conduct of the affairs of the financial institution. A notice or order of suspension, removal, or prohibition may be served by any of the means authorized for service under § 263.11(c)(2) of subpart A.

§ 263.72 Request for informal hearing.

An institution-affiliated party who is suspended or removed from office or prohibited from participation in the institution's affairs may request an informal hearing within 30 days of service of the notice or order. The request shall be filed in writing with the Secretary, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, DC 20551. The request shall state with particularity the relief desired and the grounds therefor and shall include, when available, supporting evidence in the form of affidavits. If the institution-affiliated party desires to present oral testimony or witnesses at the hearing, the institution-affiliated party must include a request to do so with the request for informal hearing. The request to present oral testimony or witnesses shall specify the names of the witnesses and the general nature of their expected testimony.

§ 263.73 Order for informal hearing.

(a) *Issuance of hearing order.* Upon receipt of a timely request for an informal hearing, the Secretary shall promptly issue an order directing an informal hearing to commence within 30 days of the receipt of the request. At the request of the institution-affiliated party, the Secretary may order the hearing to commence at a time more than 30 days after the receipt of the request for hearing. The hearing shall be held in Washington, DC, or at such other place as may be designated by the Secretary, before presiding officers designated by the Secretary to conduct the hearing. The presiding officers normally will include representatives from the Board's Legal Division and the Division of Banking Supervision and Regulation and from the appropriate Federal Reserve Bank.

(b) *Waiver of oral hearing.* A institution-affiliated party may waive in writing his or her right to an oral hearing and instead elect to have the matter determined by the Board solely on the basis of written submissions.

(c) *Hearing procedures.* (1) The institution-affiliated party may appear at the hearing personally, through counsel, or personally with counsel. The institution-affiliated party shall have the right to introduce relevant written materials and to present an oral argument. The institution-affiliated party may introduce oral testimony and present witnesses only if expressly authorized by the Board or the Secretary. Except as provided in § 263.11, the adjudicative procedures of the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 554–557) and of subpart A of this

part shall not apply to the informal hearing ordered under this subpart unless the Board orders that subpart A of this part applies.

(2) The informal hearing shall be recorded and a transcript shall be furnished to the institution-affiliated party upon request and after the payment of the cost thereof. Witnesses need not be sworn, unless specifically requested by a party or the presiding officers. The presiding officers may ask questions of any witness.

(3) The presiding officers may order the record to be kept open for a reasonable period following the hearing (normally five business days), during which time additional submissions to the record may be made. Thereafter, the record shall be closed.

(d) *Authority of presiding officers.* In the course of or in connection with any proceeding under this subpart, the Board or the presiding officers are authorized to administer oaths and affirmations, to take or cause to be taken depositions, to issue, quash or modify subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum, and, for the enforcement thereof, to apply to an appropriate United States district court. All action relating to depositions and subpoenas shall be in accordance with the rules provided in §§ 263.34 and 263.53.

(e) *Recommendation of presiding officers.* The presiding officers shall make a recommendation to the Board concerning the notice or order of suspension, removal, or prohibition within 20 calendar days following the close of the record on the hearing.

§ 263.74 Decision of the Board.

(a) Within 60 days following the close of the record on the hearing, or receipt of written submissions where a hearing has been waived, the Board shall notify the institution-affiliated party whether the notice of suspension or prohibition will be continued, terminated, or otherwise modified, or whether the order of removal or prohibition will be rescinded or otherwise modified. The notification shall contain a statement of the basis for any adverse decision by the Board. In the case of a decision favorable to the institution-affiliated party, the Board shall take prompt action to rescind or otherwise modify the order of suspension, removal or prohibition.

(b) In deciding the question of suspension, removal, or prohibition under this subpart, the Board shall not rule on the question of the guilt or innocence of the individual with respect to the crime with which the individual has been charged.

Subpart E—Procedures for Issuance and Enforcement of Directives To Maintain Adequate Capital

§ 263.80 Purpose and scope.

This subpart establishes procedures under which the Board may issue a directive or take other action to require a state member bank or a bank holding company to achieve and maintain adequate capital.

§ 263.81 Definitions.

(a) *Bank holding company* means any company that controls a bank as defined in section 2 of the BHCA, 12 U.S.C. 1841, and in the Board's Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.2(b)) or any direct or indirect subsidiary thereof other than a bank subsidiary as defined in section 2(c) of the BHCA, 12 U.S.C. 1841(c), and in the Board's Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.2(a)).

(b) *Capital Adequacy Guidelines* means those guidelines for bank holding companies and state member banks contained in appendix A and D to the Board's Regulation Y (12 CFR part 225), and in appendix A to the Board's Regulation H (12 CFR part 208), or any succeeding capital guidelines promulgated by the Board.

(c) *Directive* means a final order issued by the Board pursuant to ILSA (12 U.S.C. 3907(b)(2)) requiring a state member bank or bank holding company to increase capital to or maintain capital at the minimum level set forth in the Board's Capital Adequacy Guidelines or as otherwise established under procedures described in § 263.85 of this subpart.

(d) *State member bank* means any state-chartered bank that is a member of the Federal Reserve System.

§ 263.82 Establishment of minimum capital levels.

The Board has established minimum capital levels for state member banks and bank holding companies in its Capital Adequacy Guidelines. The Board may set higher capital levels as necessary and appropriate for a particular state member bank or bank holding company based upon its financial condition, managerial resources, prospects, or similar factors, pursuant to the procedures set forth in § 263.85 of this subpart.

§ 263.83 Issuance of capital directives.

(a) *Notice of intent to issue directive.* Except as provided in § 263.85 of this subpart, if a state member bank or bank holding company is operating with less than the minimum level of capital established in the Board's Capital Adequacy Guidelines, the Board may issue and serve upon such state member bank or bank holding company written notice of the Board's intent to issue a directive to require the bank or bank holding company to achieve and maintain adequate capital within a specified time period.

(b) *Contents of notice.* The notice of intent to issue a directive shall include:

(1) The required minimum level of capital to be achieved or maintained by the institution;

(2) Its current level of capital;

(3) The proposed increase in capital needed to meet the minimum requirements;

(4) The proposed date or schedule for meeting these minimum requirements;

(5) When deemed appropriate, specific details of a proposed plan for meeting the minimum capital requirements; and

(6) The date for a written response by the bank or bank holding company to the proposed directive, which shall be at least 14 days from the date of issuance of the notice unless the Board determines a shorter period is necessary because of the financial condition of the bank or bank holding company.

(c) *Response to notice.* The bank or bank holding company may file a written response to the notice within the time period set by the Board. The response may include:

(1) An explanation why a directive should not be issued;

(2) Any proposed modification of the terms of the directive;

(3) Any relevant information, mitigating circumstances, documentation or other evidence in support of the institution's position regarding the proposed directive; and

(4) The institution's plan for attaining the required level of capital.

(d) *Failure to file response.* Failure by the bank or bank holding company to file a written response to the notice of intent to issue a directive within the specified time period shall constitute a waiver of the opportunity to respond and shall constitute consent to the issuance of such directive.

(e) *Board consideration of response.* After considering the response of the bank or bank holding company, the Board may:

(1) Issue the directive as originally proposed or in modified form;

(2) Determine not to issue a directive and so notify the bank or bank holding company; or

(3) Seek additional information or clarification of the response by the bank or bank holding company.

(f) *Contents of directive.* Any directive issued by the Board may order the bank or bank holding company to:

(1) Achieve or maintain the minimum capital requirement established pursuant to the Board's Capital Adequacy Guidelines or the procedures in § 263.85 of this subpart by a certain date;

(2) Adhere to a previously submitted plan or submit for approval and adhere to a plan for achieving the minimum capital requirement by a certain date;

(3) Take other specific action as the Board directs to achieve the minimum capital levels, including requiring a reduction of assets or asset growth or restriction on the payment of dividends; or

(4) Take any combination of the above actions.

(g) *Request for reconsideration of directive.* Any state member bank or bank holding company, upon a change in circumstances, may request the Board to reconsider the terms of a directive and may propose changes in the plan under which it is operating to meet the required minimum capital level. The directive and plan continue in effect while such request is pending before the Board.

§ 263.84 Enforcement of directive.

(a) *Judicial and administrative remedies.* (1) Whenever a bank or bank holding company fails to follow a directive issued under this subpart, or to submit or adhere to a capital adequacy plan as required by such directive, the Board may seek enforcement of the directive, including the capital adequacy plan, in the appropriate United States district court, pursuant to section 908 (b)(2)(B)(ii) of ILSA (12 U.S.C. 3907(b)(2)(B)(ii)) and to section 8(i) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1818(i)), in the same manner and to the same extent as if the directive were a final cease-and desist-order.

(2) The Board, pursuant to section 910(d) of ILSA (12 U.S.C. 3909(d)), may also assess civil money penalties for violation of the directive against any bank or bank holding company and any institution-affiliated party of the bank or bank holding company, in the same manner and to the same extent as if the directive were a final cease-and-desist order.

(b) *Other enforcement actions.* A directive may be issued separately, in conjunction with, or in addition to any other enforcement actions available to the Board, including issuance of cease-and-desist orders, the approval or denial of applications or notices, or any other actions authorized by law.

(c) *Consideration in application proceedings.* In acting upon any application or notice submitted to the Board pursuant to any statute administered by the Board, the Board may consider the progress of a state member bank or bank holding company or any subsidiary thereof in adhering to any directive or capital adequacy plan required by the Board pursuant to this subpart, or by any other appropriate banking supervisory agency pursuant to ILSA. The Board shall consider whether approval or a notice of intent not to disapprove would divert earnings, diminish capital, or otherwise impede the bank or bank holding company in achieving its required minimum capital level or complying with its capital adequacy plan.

§ 263.85 Establishment of increased capital level for specific institutions.

(a) *Establishment of capital levels for specific institutions.* The Board may establish a capital level higher than the minimum specified in the Board's Capital Adequacy Guidelines for a specific bank or bank holding company pursuant to:

(1) A written agreement or memorandum of understanding between the Board or the appropriate Federal Reserve Bank and the bank or bank holding company;

(2) A temporary or final cease-and-desist order issued pursuant to section 8(b) or (c) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1818(b) or (c));

(3) A condition for approval of an application or issuance of a notice of intent not to disapprove a proposal;

(4) Or other similar means; or

(5) The procedures set forth in paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) *Procedure to establish higher capital requirement*—(1) *Notice.* When the Board determines that capital levels above those in the Board's Capital Adequacy Guidelines may be necessary and appropriate for a particular bank or bank holding company under the circumstances, the Board shall give the bank or bank holding company notice of the proposed higher capital requirement and shall permit the bank or bank holding company an opportunity to comment upon the proposed capital level, whether it should be required and, if so, under what time schedule. The notice shall contain the Board's reasons for proposing a higher level of capital.

(2) *Response.* The bank or bank holding company shall be allowed at least 14 days to respond, unless the Board determines that a shorter period is necessary because of the financial condition of the bank or bank holding company. Failure by the bank or bank holding company to file a written response to the notice within the time set by the Board shall constitute a waiver of the opportunity to respond and shall constitute consent to issuance of a directive containing the required minimum capital level.

(3) *Board decision.* After considering the response of the institution, the Board may issue a written directive to the bank or bank holding company setting an appropriate capital level and the date on which this capital level will become effective. The Board may require the bank or bank holding company to submit and adhere to a plan for achieving such higher capital level as the Board may set.

(4) *Enforcement of higher capital level.* The Board may enforce the capital level established pursuant to the procedures described in this section and any plan submitted to achieve that capital level through the procedures set forth in § 263.84 of this subpart.

Subpart F—Practice Before the Board

§ 263.90 Scope.

This subpart prescribes rules relating to general practice before the Board on one's own behalf or in a representational capacity, including the circumstances under which disciplinary sanctions—censure, suspension, or debarment—may be imposed upon persons appearing in a representational capacity, including attorneys and accountants, but not including employees of the Board. These disciplinary sanctions, which continue in effect beyond the duration of a specific proceeding, supplement the provisions of § 263.6(b) of subpart A, which address control of a specific proceeding.

§ 263.91 Censure, suspension or debarment.

The Board may censure an individual or suspend or debar such individual from practice before the Board if he or she engages, or has engaged, in conduct warranting sanctions as set forth in § 263.94; refuses to comply with the rules and regulations in this part; or with intent to defraud in any manner, willfully and knowingly deceives, misleads, or threatens any client or prospective client. The suspension or debarment of an individual shall be initiated only upon a finding by the Board that the conduct that forms the basis for the disciplinary action is egregious.

§ 263.92 Definitions.

As used in this subpart, the following terms shall have the meaning given in this section unless the context otherwise requires.

(a)(1) *Practice before the Board* includes any matters connected with

presentations to the Board or to any of its officers or employees relating to a client's rights, privileges or liabilities under laws or regulations administered by the Board. Such matters include, but are not limited to, the preparation of any statement, opinion or other paper or document by an attorney, accountant, or other licensed professional which is filed with, or submitted to, the Board, on behalf of another person in, or in connection with, any application, notification, report or document; the representation of a person at conferences, hearings and meetings; and the transaction of other business before the Board on behalf of another person.

(2) *Practice before the Board* does not include work prepared for an institution solely at its request for use in the ordinary course of its business.

(b) *Attorney* means any individual who is a member in good standing of the bar of the highest court of any state, possession, territory, commonwealth, or the District of Columbia.

(c) *Accountant* means any individual who is duly qualified to practice as a certified public accountant or a public accountant in any state, possession, territory, commonwealth, or the District of Columbia.

§ 263.93 Eligibility to practice.

(a) *Attorneys.* Any attorney who is qualified to practice as an attorney and is not currently under suspension or debarment pursuant to this subpart may practice before the Board.

(b) *Accountants.* Any accountant who is qualified to practice as a certified public accountant or public accountant and is not currently under suspension or debarment by the Board may practice before the Board.

§ 263.94 Conduct warranting sanctions.

Conduct for which an individual may be censured, debarred or suspended from practice before the Board includes, but is not limited to:

(a) Willfully violating or willfully aiding and abetting the violation of any provision of the Federal banking laws or the rules and regulations thereunder or conviction of any offense involving dishonesty or breach of trust;

(b) Knowingly giving false or misleading information, or participating in any way in the giving of false information to the Board or to any Board officer or employee, or to any tribunal authorized to pass upon matters administered by the Board in connection with any matter pending or likely to be pending before it. The term "information" includes facts or other statements contained in testimony, financial statements, applications, affidavits, declarations, or any other document or written or oral statement;

(c) Directly or indirectly attempting to influence, or offering or agreeing to attempt to influence, the official action of any officer or employee of the Board by the use of threats, false accusations, duress or coercion, by the offer of any special inducement or promise of advantage or by the bestowing of any gift, favor, or thing of value;

(d) Disbarment or suspension from practice as an attorney, or debarment or suspension from practice as a certified public accountant or public accountant, by any duly constituted authority of any state, possession, commonwealth, or the District of Columbia for the conviction of a felony or misdemeanor involving personal dishonesty or breach of trust in matters relating to the supervisory responsibilities of the Board, where the conviction has not been reversed on appeal;

(e) Knowingly aiding or abetting another individual to practice before the Board during that individual's period of suspension, debarment, or ineligibility;

(f) Contemptuous conduct in connection with practice before the Board, and knowingly making false accusations and statements, or circulating or publishing malicious or libelous matter;

(g) Suspension or debarment from practice before the OCC, the FDIC, the OTS, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the NCUA, or any other Federal agency based on matters relating to the supervisory responsibilities of the Board;

(h) Willful or knowing violation of any of the regulations contained in this part.

§ 263.95 Initiation of disciplinary proceeding.

(a) *Receipt of information.* An individual, including any employee of the Board, who has reason to believe that an individual practicing before the Board in a representative capacity has engaged in any conduct that would serve as a basis for censure, suspension or debarment under § 263.94, may make a report thereof and forward it to the Board.

(b) *Censure without formal proceeding.* Upon receipt of information regarding an individual's qualification to practice before the Board, the Board may, after giving the individual notice and opportunity to respond, censure such individual.

(c) *Institution of formal disciplinary proceeding.* When the Board has reason to believe that any individual who practices before the Board in a representative capacity has engaged in conduct that would serve as a basis for censure, suspension or debarment under § 263.94 the Board may, after giving the individual notice and opportunity to respond, institute a formal disciplinary proceeding against such individual. The proceeding shall be conducted pursuant to § 263.97 and shall be initiated by a complaint issued by the Board that names the individual as a respondent. Except in cases when time, the nature of the proceeding, or the public interest do not permit, a proceeding under this section shall not be instituted until the respondent has been informed, in writing, of the facts or conduct which warrant institution of a proceeding and the respondent has been accorded the opportunity to comply with all lawful requirements or take whatever action may be necessary to remedy the conduct that is the basis for the initiation of the proceeding.

§ 263.96 Conferences.

(a) *General.* The Board's staff may confer with a proposed respondent concerning allegations of misconduct or other grounds for censure, debarment or suspension, regardless of whether a proceeding for debarment or suspension has been instituted. If a conference results in a stipulation in connection with a proceeding in which the individual is the respondent, the stipulation may be entered in the record at the request of either party to the proceeding.

(b) *Resignation or voluntary suspension.* In order to avoid the institution of, or a decision in, a debarment or suspension proceeding, a person who practices before the Board may consent to suspension from practice. At the discretion of the Board, the individual may be suspended or debarred in accordance with the consent offered.

§ 263.97 Proceedings under this subpart.

Except as otherwise provided in this subpart, any hearing held under this subpart shall be held before an administrative law judge of the OFIA pursuant to procedures set forth in subpart A of this part. The Board shall appoint a person to represent the Board in the hearing. Any person having prior involvement in the matter which is the basis for the suspension or debarment proceeding shall be disqualified from representing the Board in the hearing. The hearing shall be closed to the public unless the Board, sua sponte or on the request of a party, otherwise directs. The administrative law judge shall refer a recommended decision to the Board, which shall issue the final decision and order. In its final decision and order, the

Board may censure, debar or suspend an individual, or take such other disciplinary action as the Board deems appropriate.

§ 263.98 Effect of suspension, debarment or censure.

(a) *Debarment.* If the final order against the respondent is for debarment, the individual will not thereafter be permitted to practice before the Board unless otherwise permitted to do so by the Board pursuant to § 263.99 of this subpart.

(b) *Suspension.* If the final order against the respondent is for suspension, the individual will not thereafter be permitted to practice before the Board during the period of suspension.

(c) *Censure.* If the final order against the respondent is for censure, the individual may be permitted to practice before the Board, but such individual's future representations may be subject to conditions designed to promote high standards of conduct. If a written letter of censure is issued, a copy will be maintained in the Board's files.

(d) *Notice of debarment or suspension.* Upon the issuance of a final order for suspension or debarment, the Board shall give notice of the order to appropriate officers and employees of the Board, to interested departments and agencies of the Federal Government, and to the appropriate authorities of the State in which any debarred or suspended individual is or was licensed to practice.

§ 263.99 Petition for reinstatement.

The Board may entertain a petition for reinstatement from any person debarred from practice before the Board. The Board shall grant reinstatement only if the Board finds that the petitioner is likely to act in accordance with the regulations in this part, and that granting reinstatement would not be contrary to the public interest. Any request for reinstatement shall be limited to written submissions unless the Board, in its discretion, affords the petitioner an informal hearing.

Subpart G—Rules Regarding Claims Under the Equal Access to Justice Act

§ 263.100 Authority and scope.

This subpart implements the provisions of the Equal Access to Justice Act (5 U.S.C. 504) as they apply to formal adversary adjudications before the Board. The types of proceedings covered by this subpart are listed in §§ 263.1 and 263.50.

§ 263.101 Standards for awards.

A respondent in a covered proceeding that prevails on the merits of that proceeding against the Board, and that is eligible under this subpart as defined in § 263.103, may receive an award for fees and expenses incurred in the proceeding unless the position of the Board during the proceeding was substantially justified or special circumstances make an award unjust. The position of the Board includes, in addition to the position taken by the Board in the adversary proceeding, the action or failure to act by the Board upon which the adversary proceeding was based. An award will be reduced or denied if the applicant has unduly or unreasonably protracted the proceedings.

§ 263.102 Prevailing party.

Only an eligible applicant that prevailed on the merits of an adversary proceeding may qualify for an award under this subpart.

§ 263.103 Eligibility of applicants.

(a) *General rule.* To be eligible for an award under this subpart, an applicant must have been named as a party to the adjudicatory proceeding and show that it meets all other conditions of eligibility set forth below.

(b) *Types of eligible applicant.* An applicant is eligible for an award only if it meets at least one of the following descriptions:

(1) An individual with a net worth of not more than $2 million at the time the adversary adjudication was initiated;

(2) Any owner of an unincorporated business, or any partnership, corporation, associations, unit of local government or organization, the net worth of which did not exceed $7,000,000 and which did not have more than 500 employees at the time the adversary adjudication was initiated;

(3) A charitable or other tax-exempt organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3)) with not more than 500 employees at the time the adversary proceeding was initiated; or

(4) A cooperative association as defined in section 15(a) of the Agricultural Marketing Act (12 U.S.C. 1141j(a)) with not more than 500 employees at the time the adversary proceeding was initiated.

(c) *Factors to be considered.* In determining the eligibility of an applicant:

(1) An applicant who owns an unincorporated business shall be considered as an "individual" rather than a "sole owner of an unincorporated business" if the issues on which he or she prevailed are related to personal interests rather than to business interests.

(2) An applicant's net worth includes the value of any assets disposed of for the purpose of meeting an eligibility standard and excludes the value of any obligations incurred for this purpose. Transfers of assets or obligations incurred for less than reasonably equivalent value will be presumed to have been made for this purpose.

(3) The net worth of a financial institution shall be established by the net worth information reported in conformity with applicable instructions and guidelines on the financial institution's financial report to its supervisory agency for the last reporting date before the initiation of the adversary proceeding. A bank holding company's net worth will be considered on a consolidated basis even if the bank holding company is not required to file its regulatory reports to the Board on a consolidated basis.

(4) The employees of an applicant include all those persons who were regularly providing services for remuneration for the applicant, under its direction and control, on the date the adversary proceeding was initiated. Part-time employees are counted on a proportional basis.

(5) The net worth and number of employees of the applicant and all of its affiliates shall be aggregated to determine eligibility. As used in this subpart, "affiliates" are: Individuals, corporations, and entities that directly or indirectly or acting through one or more entities control at least 25% of the voting shares of the applicant, and corporations and entities of which the applicant directly or indirectly owns or controls at least 25% of the voting shares. The Board may determine, in light of the actual relationship among the affiliated entities, that aggregation with regard to one or more of the applicant's affiliates would be unjust and contrary to the purposes of this subpart and decline to aggregate the net worth and employees of such affiliate; alternatively, the Board may determine that financial relationships of the applicant other than those described in this paragraph constitute special circumstances that would make an award unjust.

§ 263.104 Application for awards.

(a) *Time to file.* An application and any other pleading or document related to the application may be filed with the Board whenever the applicant has prevailed in the proceeding within 30 days after service of the final order of the Board disposing of the proceeding.

(b) *Contents.* An application for an award of fees and expenses under this subpart shall contain:

(1) The name of the applicant and an identification of the proceeding;

(2) A showing that the applicant has prevailed, and an identification of the way in which the applicant believes that the position of the Board in the proceeding was not substantially justified;

(3) If the applicant is not an individual, a statement of the number of its employees on the date the proceeding was initiated;

(4) A description of any affiliated individuals or entities, as defined in § 263.103(c)(5), or a statement that none exist;

(5) A declaration that the applicant, together with any affiliates, had a net worth not more than the maximum set forth in § 263.103(b) as of the date the proceeding was initiated, supported by a net worth statement conforming to the requirements of § 263.105;

(6) A statement of the amount of fees and expenses for which an award is sought conforming to § 263.107; and

(7) Any other matters that the applicant wishes the Board to consider in determining whether and in what amount an award should be made.

(c) *Verification.* The application shall be signed by the applicant or an authorized officer of or attorney for the applicant. It shall also contain or be accompanied by a written verification under oath or under penalty of perjury that the information provided in the application and supporting documents is true and correct.

(d) *Service.* The application and related documents shall be served on all parties to the adversary proceeding in accordance with § 263.11, except that statements of net worth shall be served only on counsel for the Board.

(e) *Presiding officer.* Upon receipt of an application, the Board shall, if feasible, refer the matter to the administrative law judge who heard the underlying adversary proceeding.

§ 263.105 Statement of net worth.

(a) *General rule.* A statement of net worth shall be filed with the application for an award of fees. The statement shall reflect the net worth of the applicant and all affiliates of the applicant, as specified in § 263.103(c)(5). In all cases, the administrative law judge or the Board may call for additional information needed to establish the applicant's net worth as of the initiation of the proceeding.

(b) *Contents.* (1) Except as otherwise provided herein, the statement of net worth may be in any form convenient to the applicant which fully discloses all the assets and liabilities of the applicant and all the assets and liabilities of its affiliates, as of the time of the initiation of the adversary adjudication. Unaudited financial statements are acceptable for individual applicants as long as the statement provides a reliable basis for evaluation, unless the administrative law judge or the Board otherwise requires. Financial statements or reports filed with or reported to a Federal or State agency, prepared before the initiation of the adversary proceeding for other purposes, and accurate as of a date not more than three months prior to the initiation of the proceeding, shall be acceptable in establishing net worth as of the time of the initiation of the proceeding, unless the administrative law judge or the Board otherwise requires.

(2) In the case of applicants or affiliates that are not banks, net worth shall be considered for the purposes of this subpart to be the excess of total assets over total liabilities, as of the date the underlying proceeding was initiated, except as adjusted under § 263.103(c)(5). The net worth of a bank holding company shall be considered on a consolidated basis. Assets and liabilities of individuals shall include those beneficially owned.

(3) If the applicant or any of its affiliates is a bank, the portion of the statement of net worth which relates to the bank shall consist of a copy of the bank's last Consolidated Report of Condition and Income filed before the initiation of the adversary adjudication. Net worth shall be considered for the purposes of this subpart to be the total equity capital (or, in the case of mutual savings banks, the total surplus accounts) as reported, in conformity with applicable instructions and guidelines, on the bank's Consolidated Report of Condition and Income filed for the last reporting date before the initiation of the proceeding.

(c) *Statement confidential.* Unless otherwise ordered by the Board or required by law, the statement of net worth shall be for the confidential use of the Board, counsel for the Board, and the administrative law judge.

§ 263.106 Measure of awards.

(a) *General rule.* Awards shall be based on rates customarily charged by persons engaged in the business of acting as attorneys, agents, and expert witnesses, provided that no award under this subpart for the fee of an attorney or agent shall exceed $75 per hour. No award to compensate an expert witness shall exceed the highest rate at which the Board pays expert witnesses. An award may include the reasonable expenses of the attorney, agent, or expert witness as a separate item, if the attorney, agent, or expert witness ordinarily charges clients separately for such expenses.

(b) *Determination of reasonableness of fees.* In determining the reasonableness of the fee sought for an attorney, agent, or expert witness, subject to the limits set forth above, the administrative law judge shall consider the following:

(1) If the attorney, agent, or expert witness is in private practice, his or her customary fee for like services.

(2) The prevailing rate for similar services in the community in which the attorney, agent, or expert witness ordinarily performs services;

(3) The time actually spent in the representation of the applicant;

(4) The time reasonably spent in light of the difficulty or complexity of the issues in the proceeding; and

(5) Such other factors as may bear on the value of the services provided.

(c) *Awards for studies.* The reasonable cost of any study, analysis, test, project, or similar matter prepared on behalf of an applicant may be awarded to the extent that the charge for the service does not exceed the prevailing rate payable for similar services, and the study or other matter was necessary solely for preparation of the applicant's case and not otherwise required by law or sound business or financial practice.

§ 263.107 Statement of fees and expenses.

The application shall be accompanied by a statement fully documenting the fees and expenses for which an award is sought. A separate itemized statement shall be submitted for each professional firm or individual whose services are covered by the application, showing the hours spent in work in connection with the proceeding by each individual, a description of the specific services performed, the rate at which each fee has been computed, any expenses for which reimbursement is sought, the total amount claimed, and the total amount paid or payable by the applicant or by any other person or entity for the services performed. The administrative law judge or the Board may require the applicant to provide vouchers, receipts, or other substantiation for any expenses claimed.

§ 263.108 Responses to application.

(a) *By counsel for the Board.* (1) Within 20 days after service of an

application, counsel for the Board may file an answer to the application.

(2) The answer shall explain in detail any objections to the award requested and identify the facts relied on in support of the Board's position. If the answer is based on any alleged facts not already in the record of the proceeding, the answer shall include either supporting affidavits or a request for further proceedings under § 263.109, or both.

(b) *Reply to answer.* The applicant may file a reply only if the Board has addressed in its answer any of the following issues: that the position of the agency was substantially justified, that the applicant unduly protracted the proceedings, or that special circumstances make an award unjust. Any reply authorized by this section shall be filed within l5 days of service of the answer. If the reply is based on any alleged facts not already in the record of the proceeding, the reply shall include either supporting affidavits or a request for further proceedings under § 263.109, or both.

(c) *Additional response.* Additional filings in the nature of pleadings may be submitted only by leave of the administrative law judge.

§ 263.109 Further proceedings.

(a) *General rule.* The determination of a recommended award shall be made by the administrative law judge on the basis of the written record of the adversary adjudication, including any supporting affidavits submitted in connection with the application, unless, on the motion of either the applicant or Board counsel, or sua sponte, the administrative law judge or the Board orders further proceedings to amplify the record such as an informal conference, oral argument, additional written submissions, or an evidentiary hearing. Such further proceedings shall be held only when necessary for full and fair resolution of the issues arising from the application and shall be conducted promptly and expeditiously.

(b) *Request for further proceedings.* A request for further proceedings under this section shall specifically identify the information sought or the issues in dispute and shall explain why additional proceedings are necessary.

(c) *Hearing.* The administrative law judge shall hold an oral evidentiary hearing only on disputed issues of material fact which cannot be adequately resolved through written submissions.

§ 263.110 Recommended decision.

The administrative law judge shall file with the Board a recommended decision on the fee application not later than 30 days after the submission of all pleadings and evidentiary material concerning the application. The recommended decision shall include written proposed findings and conclusions on the applicant's eligibility and its status as a prevailing party and, if applicable, an explanation of the reasons for any difference between the amount requested and the amount of the recommended award. The recommended decision shall also include, if at issue, proposed findings as to whether the Board's position was substantially justified, whether the applicant unduly protracted the proceedings, or whether special circumstances make an award unjust. The administrative law judge shall file the record of the proceeding on the fee application upon the filing of the recommended decision and, at the same time, serve upon each party a copy of the recommended decision, findings, conclusions, and proposed order.

§ 263.111 Action by the Board.

(a) *Exceptions to recommended decision.* Within 20 days after service of the recommended decision, findings, conclusions, and proposed order, the applicant or counsel for the Board may file written exceptions thereto. A supporting brief may also be filed.

(b) *Decision by the Board.* The Board shall render its decision within 90 days after it has notified the parties that the matter has been received for decision. The Board shall serve copies of the decision and order of the Board upon the parties. Judicial review of the decision and order may be obtained as provided in 5 U.S.C. 504(c)(2).

Dated: June 5, 1991.

William W. Wiles,

Secretary of the Board.

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

12 CFR Part 308

List of Subjects in 12 CFR Part 308

Administrative practice and procedure, Banks, Banking, *Ex parte* communication, Hearing procedure, Penalties, State nonmember banks.

Authority and Issuance

For the reasons set forth in the common preamble, part 308 of chapter III of title 12 of the Code of Federal Regulations is proposed to be amended as set forth below:

PART 308—RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURES

1. The authority citation for part 308 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 12 U.S.C. 1815(e), 1817 (a) and (j), 1818, 1820, 1828(j), 1829, 1831i (secs. 5(e), 7(a), 7(j), 8, 10, 18(j), 19, and 32 of the FDIA); 15 U.S.C. 78l(h), 78m, 78n(a), 78n(c), 78n(d), 78n(f), 78o, 78o–4(c)(5), 78p, 78q, 78q–1, 78s (secs. 12(h), 13, 14(a), 14(c), 14(d), 14(f), 15(b)(4), 15B(c)(5), 16, 17, 17A, 19 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934); 5 U.S.C. 504 (Equal Access to Justice Act); 5 U.S.C. 554–557 (secs. of the Administrative Procedure Act).

2. Subpart A is revised to read as set forth at the end of the common preamble.

Subpart A—Uniform Rules of Practice and Procedure

Sec.

Sec.
308.41 Stays pending judicial review.

3. Subparts B through N and subpart P are revised and subpart O is added to read as follows:

Subpart B—General Rules of Procedure

Subpart C—Rules of Practice Before the FDIC and Standards of Conduct

Subpart D—Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings Relating to Disapproval of Acquisition of Control

Subpart E—Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings Relating To Assessment of Civil Penalties for Willful Violations of the Change in Bank Control Act

Subpart F—Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings for Involuntary Termination of Insured Status

Subpart G—Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings Relating to Cease-and-Desist Orders

Subpart H—Rules and Procedures Applicable To Proceedings Relating To Assessment and Collection of Civil Money Penalties for Violation of Cease-and-Desist Orders and of Certain Federal Statutes, Including Call Report Penalties

Subpart I—Rules and Procedures for Imposition of Sanctions Upon Municipal Securities Dealers or Persons Associated With Them and Clearing Agencies or Transfer Agents

Subpart J—Rules and Procedures Relating To Exemption Proceedings Under Section 12(h) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Subpart K—Procedures Applicable To Investigations Pursuant to Section 10(c) of the Act

Subpart L—Procedures and Standards Applicable to a Notice of Change in Senior Executive Officer or Director Pursuant to Section 32 of the Act

Subpart M—Procedures and Standards Applicable to an Application Pursuant to Section 19 of the FDIA

Subpart N—Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings Relating to Suspension, Removal, and Prohibition Where a Felony Is Charged

Subpart O—Liability of Commonly Controlled Depository Institutions

Subpart P—Rules and Procedures Relating to the Recovery of Attorney Fees and Other Expenses

Subpart B—General Rules of Procedure

§ 308.100 Definitions.

For purposes of this part 308, including the Uniform Rules, unless explicitly stated to the contrary:

(a) *Board of Directors* or the *designee* of the Board of Directors means the Board of Directors of the FDIC or the officers or officials of the FDIC acting pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Directors as provided in 12 CFR part 303 or by specific resolution of the Board of Directors; and

(b) *Executive Secretary* means the Executive Secretary of the FDIC or his or her designee.

§ 308.101 Scope of local rules.

(a) Subparts B and C of the Local Rules prescribe rules of practice and procedure to be followed in the administrative enforcement proceedings initiated by the FDIC as set forth in § 308.01 of the Uniform Rules.

(b) Except as otherwise specifically provided, the Uniform Rules and subpart B of the Local Rules shall not apply to subparts D through P of the Local Rules.

(c) Subpart C of the Local Rules shall apply to any administrative proceeding initiated by the FDIC.

§ 308.102 Authority of Board of Directors and Executive Secretary.

(a) *The Board of Directors.* (1) The Board of Directors may, at any time during the pendency of a proceeding, perform, direct the performance of, or waive performance of, any act which could be done or ordered by the Executive Secretary.

(2) Nothing contained in Part 308 shall be construed to limit the power of the Board of Directors granted by applicable statutes or regulations.

(b) *The Executive Secretary.* When no administrative law judge has jurisdiction over a proceeding, the Executive Secretary may act in place of, and with the same authority as, an administrative law judge, except that the Executive Secretary may not hear a case on the merits or make a recommended decision on the merits to the Board of Directors.

§ 308.103 Appointment of administrative law judge.

(a) *Appointment.* Unless otherwise directed by the Board of Directors or as otherwise provided in the Local Rules, a hearing within the scope of this Part 308 shall be held before an administrative law judge of the Office of Financial Institution Adjudication ("OFIA").

(b) *Procedures.* (1) The Executive Secretary shall promptly after issuance of the Notice refer the matter to the OFIA which shall secure the appointment of an administrative law judge to hear the proceeding.

(2) OFIA shall advise the parties, in writing, that an administrative law judge has been appointed.

§ 308.104 Filings with the Board of Directors.

(a) *General Rule.* All materials required to be filed with or referred to the Board of Directors in any proceedings under this Part 308 shall be filed with the Executive Secretary, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 550 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20429.

(b) *Scope.* Filings to be made with the Executive Secretary include the record filed by the administrative law judge after the issuance of a recommended decision; the recommended decision filed by the administrative law judge following a motion for summary disposition; referrals by the administrative law judge of motions for interlocutory review; motions and responses to motions filed by the parties after the record has been certified to the Board of Directors; exceptions and requests for oral argument; and any other papers required to be filed with the Board of Directors under this part 308.

§ 308.105 Custodian of the record.

The Executive Secretary is the official custodian of the record when no administrative law judge has jurisdiction over the proceeding. As the official custodian, the Executive Secretary shall maintain the official record of all papers filed in each proceeding.

§ 308.106 Written testimony in lieu of oral hearing.

(a) *General rule.* (1) At any time more than fifteen days before the hearing is to commence, on the motion of any party or on his or her own motion, the administrative law judge may order that the parties present part or all of their case-in-chief and, if ordered, their rebuttal, in the form of exhibits and written statements sworn to by the witness offering such statements as evidence, provided that if any party objects, the administrative law judge shall not require such a format if that format would violate the objecting party's right under the Administrative Procedure Act, or other applicable law, or would otherwise unfairly prejudice that party.

(2) Any such order shall provide that each party shall, upon request, have the same right of oral cross-examination (or redirect examination) as would exist had the witness testified orally rather than through a written statement. Such order shall also provide that any party has a right to call any hostile witness or adverse party to testify orally.

(b) *Scheduling of submission of written testimony.* (1) If written direct testimony and exhibits are ordered under paragraph (a) of this section, the administrative law judge shall require that it be filed within the time period for commencement of the hearing, and the hearing shall be deemed to have commenced on the day such testimony is due.

(2) Absent good cause shown, written rebuttal, if any shall be submitted and the oral portion of the hearing begun within 30 days of the date set for filing written direct testimony.

(3) The administrative law judge shall direct, unless good cause requires otherwise, that—

(i) all parties shall simultaneously file any exhibits and written direct testimony required under paragraph (b)(1) of this section; and

(ii) all parties shall simultaneously file any exhibits and written rebuttal required under paragraph (b)(2) of this section.

(c) *Failure to comply with order to file written testimony.* (1) The failure of any party to comply with an order to file written testimony or exhibits at the time and in the manner required under this section shall be deemed a waiver of that party's right to present any evidence, except testimony of a previously identified adverse party or hostile witness. Failure to file written testimony or exhibits is, however, not a waiver of that party's right of cross-examination or a waiver of the right to present rebuttal evidence that was not required to be submitted in written form.

(2) Late filings of papers under this section may be allowed and accepted only upon good cause shown.

§ 308.107 Document discovery.

(a) Parties to proceedings set forth at § 308.01 of the Uniform Rules and in the Local Rules may obtain discovery only through the production of documents. No other form of discovery shall be allowed.

(b) Any questioning at a deposition of a person producing documents pursuant to a document subpoena shall be strictly limited to the identification of documents produced by that person and a reasonable examination to determine whether the subpoenaed person made an adequate search for, and has produced, all subpoenaed documents.

Subpart C—Rules of Practice Before the FDIC and Standards of Conduct

§ 308.108 Sanctions.

(a) *General rule.* Appropriate sanctions may be imposed when any counsel or party has acted, or failed to act, in a manner required by applicable statute, regulations, or order, and that act or failure to act:

(1) Constitutes contemptuous conduct;

(2) Has in a material way injured or prejudiced some other party in terms of substantive injury, incurring additional expenses including attorney's fees, prejudicial delay, or otherwise;

(3) Is a clear and unexcused violation of an applicable statute, regulation, or order; or

(4) Has unduly delayed the proceeding.

(b) *Sanctions.* Sanctions which may be imposed include any one or more of the following:

(1) Issuing an order against the party;

(2) Rejecting or striking any testimony or documentary evidence offered, or other papers filed, by the party;

(3) Precluding the party from contesting specific issues or findings;

(4) Precluding the party from offering certain evidence or from challenging or contesting certain evidence offered by another party;

(5) Precluding the party from making a late filing or conditioning a late filing on any terms that are just; and

(6) Assessing reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees, incurred by any other party as a result of the improper action or failure to act.

(c) *Limits on dismissal as a sanction.* No recommendation of dismissal shall

be made by the administrative law judge or granted by the Board of Directors based on the failure to hold a hearing within the time period called for in this Part 308, or on the failure of an administrative law judge to render a recommended decision within the time period called for in this Part 308, absent a finding:

(1) That the delay resulted solely or principally from the conduct of the FDIC enforcement counsel;

(2) That the conduct of the FDIC enforcement counsel is unexcused;

(3) That the moving respondent took all reasonable steps to oppose and prevent the subject delay;

(4) That the moving respondent has been materially prejudiced or injured; and

(5) That no lesser or different sanction is adequate.

(d) *Procedure for imposition of sanctions.* (1) The administrative law judge, upon the request of any party, or on his or her own motion, may impose sanctions in accordance with this section, provided that the administrative law judge may only recommend to the Board of Directors the sanction of entering a final order determining the case on the merits.

(2) No sanction, other than refusing to accept late papers, authorized by this section shall be imposed without prior notice to all parties and an opportunity for any counsel or party against whom sanctions would be imposed to be heard. Such opportunity to be heard may be on such notice, and the response may be in such form, as the administrative law judge directs. The opportunity to be heard may be limited to an opportunity to respond orally immediately after the act or inaction covered by this section is noted by the administrative law judge.

(3) Requests for the imposition of sanctions by any party, and the imposition of sanctions, shall be treated for interlocutory review purposes in the same manner as any other ruling by the administrative law judge.

(4) *Section not exclusive.* Nothing in this section shall be read as precluding the administrative law judge or the Board of Directors from taking any other action, or imposing any restriction or sanction, authorized by applicable statute or regulation.

§ 308.109 Suspension and disbarment.

(a) *Discretionary suspension and disbarment.* (1) The Board of Directors may suspend or revoke the privilege of any counsel to appear or practice before the FDIC if, after notice of and opportunity for hearing in the matter, that counsel is found by the Board of Directors:

(i) Not to possess the requisite qualifications to represent others;

(ii) To be seriously lacking in character or integrity or to have engaged in material unethical or improper professional conduct;

(iii) To have engaged in, or aided and abetted, a material and knowing violation of the Act; or

(iv) To have engaged in contemptuous conduct before the FDIC.

Suspension or revocation on the grounds set forth in paragraphs (a)(1) (ii), (iii), and (iv) of this section shall only be ordered upon a further finding that the counsel's conduct or character was sufficiently egregious as to justify suspension or revocation.

(2) Unless otherwise ordered by the Board of Directors, an application for reinstatement by a person suspended or disbarred under paragraph (a)(1) of this section may be made in writing at any time more than three years after the effective date of the suspension or disbarment and, thereafter, at any time more than one year after the person's most recent application for reinstatement. The suspension or disbarment shall continue until the applicant has been reinstated by the Board of Directors for good cause shown or until, in the case of a suspension, the suspension period has expired. An applicant for reinstatement under this provision may, in the Board of Directors's sole discretion, be afforded a hearing.

(b) *Mandatory suspension and disbarment.* (1) Any counsel who has been and remains suspended or disbarred by a court of the United States or of any state, territory, district, commonwealth, or possession; or any person who has been and remains suspended or barred from practice before the OCC, Board of Governors, the OTS, the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the Commodity Futures Trading Commission; or any person who has been convicted of a felony, or of a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude, within the last ten years, shall be suspended automatically from appearing or practicing before the FDIC. A disbarment, suspension, or conviction within the meaning of this paragraph (b) shall be deemed to have occurred when the disbarring, suspending, or convicting agency or tribunal enters its judgment or order, regardless of whether an appeal is pending or could be taken, and includes a judgment or an order on a plea of nolo contendere or on consent, regardless of whether a violation is admitted in the consent.

(2) Any person appearing or practicing before the FDIC who is the subject of an order, judgment, decree, or finding of the types set forth in paragraph (b)(1) of this section shall promptly file with the Executive Secretary a copy thereof, together with any related opinion or statement of the agency or tribunal involved. Failure to file any such paper shall not impair the operation of any other provision of this section.

(3) A suspension or disbarment under paragraph (b)(1) of this section from practice before the FDIC shall continue until the applicant has been reinstated by the Board of Directors for good cause shown, provided that any person suspended or disbarred under paragraph (b)(1) of this section shall be automatically reinstated by the Executive Secretary, upon appropriate application, if all the grounds for suspension or disbarment under paragraph (b)(1) are subsequently removed by a reversal of the conviction (or the passage of time since the conviction) or termination of the underlying suspension or disbarment. An application for reinstatement on any other grounds by any person suspended or disbarred under paragraph (b)(1) of this section may be filed at any time not less than one year after the applicant's most recent application. An applicant for reinstatement under this provision may, in the Board of Directors' sole discretion, be afforded a hearing.

(c) *Hearing under this section.* Hearings conducted under this section shall be conducted in substantially the same manner as other hearings under the Uniform Rules, provided that in proceedings to terminate an existing FDIC suspension or disbarment order, the person seeking the termination of the order shall bear the burden of going forward with an application and with proof, and that the Board of Directors may, in its sole discretion, direct that any proceeding to terminate an existing suspension or disbarment by the FDIC be limited to written submissions.

(d) *Summary suspension for contemptuous conduct.* A finding by the administrative law judge of contemptuous conduct during the course of any proceeding shall be grounds for summary suspension by the administrative law judge of a counsel or other representative from any further participation in that proceeding for the duration of that proceeding.

(e) *Practice defined.* Unless the Board of Directors orders otherwise, for the purposes of this section, practicing before the FDIC includes, but is not limited to, transacting any business with the FDIC as counsel or agent for any

other person and the preparation of any statement, opinion, or other paper by a counsel, which statement, opinion, or paper is filed with the FDIC in any registration statement, notification, application, report, or other document, with the consent of such counsel.

Subpart D—Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings Relating to Disapproval of Acquisition of Control

§ 308.110 Scope.

Except as specifically indicated in this subpart, the rules and procedures in this subpart, subpart B of the Local Rules, and the Uniform Rules shall apply to proceedings in connection with the disapproval by the Board of Directors or its designee of a proposed acquisition of control of an insured nonmember bank.

§ 308.111 Grounds for disapproval.

The following are grounds for disapproval of a proposed acquisition of control of an insured nonmember bank:

(a) The proposed acquisition of control would result in a monopoly or would be in furtherance of any combination or conspiracy to monopolize or attempt to monopolize the banking business in any part of the United States;

(b) The effect of the proposed acquisition of control in any section of the United States may be to substantially lessen competition or to tend to create a monopoly or would in any other manner be in restraint of trade, and the anticompetitive effects of the proposed acquisition of control are not clearly outweighed in the public interest by the probable effect of the transaction in meeting the convenience and needs of the community to be served;

(c) The financial condition of any acquiring person might jeopardize the financial stability of the bank or prejudice the interests of the depositors of the bank;

(d) The competence, experience, or integrity of any acquiring person or of any of the proposed management personnel indicates that it would not be in the interest of the depositors of the bank, or in the interest of the public, to permit such person to control the bank;

(e) Any acquiring person neglects, fails, or refuses to furnish to the FDIC all the information required by the FDIC; or

(f) The FDIC determines that the proposed acquisition would result in an adverse effect on the Bank Insurance Fund or the Savings Association Insurance Fund.

§ 308.112 Notice of disapproval.

(a) *General rule.* (1) Within three days of the decision by the Board of Directors or its designee to disapprove a proposed acquisition of control of an insured nonmember bank, a written notice of disapproval shall be mailed by first class mail to, or otherwise served upon, the party seeking acquire control.

(2) The notice of disapproval shall:

(i) Contain a statement of the basis for the disapproval; and

(ii) Indicate that a hearing may be requested by filing a written request with the Executive Secretary within ten days after service of the notice of disapproval; and if a hearing is requested, that an answer to the notice of disapproval, as required by § 308.113, must be filed within 20 days after service of the notice of disapproval.

(b) *Waiver of hearing.* Failure to request a hearing pursuant to this section shall constitute a waiver of the opportunity for a hearing and the notice of disapproval shall constitute a final and unappealable order.

(c) Section 308.18(b) of the Uniform Rules shall not apply to the content of the Notice of Disapproval.

§ 308.113 Answer to notice of disapproval.

(a) *Contents.* (1) An answer to the notice of disapproval of a proposed acquisition of control shall be filed within 20 days after service of the notice of disapproval and shall specifically deny those portions of the notice of disapproval which are disputed. Those portions of the notice of disapproval which are not specifically denied are deemed admitted by the applicant.

(2) Any hearing under this subpart shall be limited to those parts of the notice of disapproval that are specifically denied.

(b) *Failure to answer.* Failure of a party to file a timely answer pursuant to this section shall be deemed a waiver of the party's right to appear at a hearing and contest the disapproval and the notice of disapproval shall constitute a final and unappealable order.

§ 308.114 Burden of proof.

The ultimate burden of proof shall be upon the person proposing to acquire a depository institution. The burden of going forward with a *prima facie* case shall be upon the FDIC.

Subpart E—Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings Relating to Assessment of Civil Penalties for Willful Violations of the Change in Bank Control Act

§ 308.115 Scope.

The rules and procedures of this subpart, subpart B of the Local Rules and the Uniform Rules shall apply to proceedings to assess civil penalties against any person for willful violation of the Change in Bank Control Act of 1978, or any regulation or order issued pursuant thereto, in connection with the affairs of an insured nonmember bank.

§ 308.116 Assessment of penalties.

(a) *In general.* The civil money penalty shall be assessed upon the service of a Notice of Assessment which shall become final and unappealable unless the respondent both requests a hearing pursuant to § 308.19(a); and files an answer pursuant to the provisions of § 308.19 of the Uniform Rules.

(b) *Amount.* (1) Any person who violates any provision of the Change in Bank Control Act or any rule, regulation, or order issued by the FDIC pursuant thereto, shall forfeit and pay a civil money penalty of not more than $5,000 for each day the violation continues.

(2) Any person who violates any provision of the Change in Bank Control Act or any rule, regulation, or order issued by the FDIC pursuant thereto; or recklessly engages in any unsafe or unsound practice in conducting the affairs of a depository institution; or breaches any fiduciary duty; which violation, practice or breach is part of a pattern of misconduct; or causes or is likely to cause more than a minimal loss to such institution; or results in pecuniary gain or other benefit to such person, shall forfeit and pay a civil money penalty of not more than $25,000 for each day such violation, practice or breach continues.

(3) Any person who knowingly violates any provision of the Change in Bank Control Act or any rule, regulation, or order issued by the FDIC pursuant thereto; or engages in any unsafe or unsound practice in conducting the affairs of a depository institution; or breaches any fiduciary duty; and knowingly or recklessly causes a substantial loss to such institution or a substantial pecuniary gain or other benefit to such institution or a substantial pecuniary gain or other benefit to such person by reason of such violation, practice or breach, shall

forfeit and pay a civil money penalty not to exceed:

(i) In the case of a person other than a depository institution—$1,000,000 per day for each day the violation, practice or breach continues; or

(ii) In the case of a depository institution—an amount not exceed the lesser of $1,000,000 or one percent of the total assets of such institution for each day the violation, practice or breach continues.

(c) *Mitigating factors.* In assessing the amount of the penalty, the Board of Directors or its designee shall consider the gravity of the violation, the history of previous violations, respondent's financial resources, good faith, and any other matters as justice may require.

(d) *Failure to answer.* Failure of a party to file a timely answer pursuant to this section shall be deemed a waiver of the party's right to appear at a hearing and contest the allegations in the notice.

§ 308.117 Effective date of, and payment under, an order to pay.

If the respondent both requests a hearing and serves an answer, civil penalties assessed pursuant to this subpart are due and payable 60 days after an order to pay, issued after the hearing or upon default, is served upon the respondent, unless the order provides for a different period of payment. Civil penalties assessed pursuant to an order to pay issued upon consent are due and payable within the time specified therein.

§ 308.118 Collection of penalties.

The FDIC may collect any civil penalty assessed pursuant to this subpart by agreement with the respondent, or the FDIC may bring an action against the respondent to recover the penalty amount in the appropriate United States district court. All penalties collected under this section shall be paid over to the Treasury of the United States.

Subpart F—Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings for Involuntary Termination of Insured Status

§ 308.119 Scope.

(a) *Involuntary termination of insurance pursuant to section 8(a) of the FDIA.* The rules and procedures in this subpart, subpart B of the Local Rules and the Uniform Rules shall apply to proceedings in connection with the involuntary termination of the insured status of an insured bank depository institution or an insured branch of a foreign bank pursuant to section 8(a) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 2828(a)), except that the Uniform Rules and subpart B of the Local Rules shall not apply to the temporary suspension of insurance pursuant to section 8(a)(8) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1818(a)(8)).

(b) *Involuntary termination of insurance pursuant to section 8(p) of the Act.* The rules and procedures in § 308.124 of this subpart F shall apply to proceedings in connection with the involuntary termination of the insured status of an insured depository institution or an insured branch of a foreign bank pursuant to section 8(p) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1818(p)). The Uniform Rules shall not apply to proceedings under section 8(p) of the FDIA.

§ 308.120 Grounds for termination of insurance.

(a) *General rule.* The following are grounds for involuntary termination of insurance pursuant to section 8(a) of the FDIA:

(1) An insured depository institution or its directors or trustees have engaged or are engaging in unsafe or unsound practices in conducting the business of such depository institution;

(2) An insured depository institution is in an unsafe or unsound condition such that it should not continue operations as an insured depository institution; or

(3) An insured depository institution or its directors or trustees have violated an applicable law, rule, regulation, order, condition imposed in writing by the FDIC in connection with the granting of any application or other request by the insured depository institution or have violated any written agreement entered into between the insured depository institution and the FDIC.

(b) *Extraterritorial acts of foreign banks.* An act or practice committed outside the United States by a foreign bank or its directors or trustees which would otherwise be a ground for termination of insured status under this section shall be a ground for termination if the Board of Directors finds:

(1) The act or practice has been, is, or is likely to be a cause of, or carried on in connection with or in furtherance of, an act or practice committed within any state, territory, or possession of the United States or the District of Columbia that, in and of itself, would be an appropriate basis for action by the FDIC; or

(2) The act or practice committed outside the United States, if proven, would adversely affect the insurance risk of the FDIC.

(c) *Failure of foreign bank to secure removal of personnel.* The failure of a foreign bank to comply with any order of removal or prohibition issued by the Board of Directors or the failure of any person associated with a foreign bank to appear promptly as a party to a proceeding pursuant to section 8(e) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1818(e)), shall be a ground for termination of insurance of deposits in any branch of the bank.

§ 308.121 Notification to primary regulator.

(a) *Service of notification.* (1) Upon a determination by the Board of Directors or its designee pursuant to § 308.120 of an unsafe or unsound practice or condition or of a violation, a notification shall be served upon the appropriate Federal banking agency of the insured depository institution, or the State banking supervisor if the FDIC is the appropriate Federal banking agency. The notification shall be served not less than 30 days before the Notice of Intent to Terminate Insured Status required by section 8(a)(2)(B) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1818(a)(2)(B)), and § 308.122, except that this period for notification may be reduced or eliminated with the agreement of the appropriate Federal banking agency.

(2) "Appropriate Federal banking agency" shall have the meaning given that term in section 3(q) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 283(q)), and shall be the OCC in the case of a national bank, a District bank or an insured Federal branch of a foreign bank; the FDIC in the case of an insured nonmember bank, including an insured State branch of a foreign bank; the Board of Governors in the case of a state member bank; or the OTS in the case of an insured Federal savings association.

(3) In the case of a state nonmember bank, insured Federal branch of a foreign bank, or state member bank, in addition to service of the notification upon the appropriate Federal banking agency, a copy of the notification shall be sent to the appropriate State banking supervisor.

(4) In instances in which a Temporary Order Suspending Insurance is issued pursuant to section 8(a)(8) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1818(a)(8)), the notification may be served concurrently with such order.

(b) *Contents of notification.* The notification shall contain the FDIC's determination, and the facts and circumstances upon which such determination is based, for the purpose of securing correction of such practice, condition, or violation.

§ 308.122 Notice of intent to terminate.

(a) *Notice.* (1) If, after serving the notification under § 308.121, the Board of Directors determines that any unsafe or unsound practices, condition, or violation, specified in the notification,

requires the termination of the insured status of the insured depository institution, the Board of Directors or its designee, if it determines to proceed further, shall cause to be served upon the insured depository institution a notice of its intention to terminate insured status not less than 30 days after service of the notification, unless a shorter time period has been agreed upon by the appropriate Federal banking agency.

(2) The Board of Directors or its designee shall cause a copy of the notice to be sent to the appropriate Federal banking agency and to the appropriate State banking supervisor, if any.

§ 308.123 Notice to depositors.

If the Board of Directors enters an order terminating the insured status of an insured depository institution or branch, the insured depository institution shall, on the day that order becomes final, or on such other day as that order prescribes, mail a notification of termination of insured status to each depositor at the depositor's last address of record on the books of the insured depository institution or branch. The insured depository institution shall also publish the notification in two issues of a local newspaper of general circulation and shall furnish the FDIC with proof of such publications. The notification to depositors shall include information provided in substantially the following form:

Notice

(Date)_____.

1. The status of the _____, as an (insured depository institution) (insured branch) under the provisions of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, will terminate as of the close of business on the _____ day of _____, 19_____.

2. Any deposits made by you after that date, either new deposits or additions to existing deposits, will not be insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

3. Insured deposits in the (depository institution) (branch) on the _____ day of _____, 19_____, will continue to be insured, as provided by Federal Deposit Insurance Act, for *2 years* after the close of business on the _____ day of _____, 19_____.

Provided, however, that any withdrawals after the close of business on the _____ day of _____, 19_____, will reduce the insurance coverage by the amount of such withdrawals.

_____

(Name of depository institution or branch)

_____

(Address)

The notification may include any additional information the depository institution deems advisable, provided that the information required by this section shall be set forth in a conspicuous manner on the first page of the notification.

§ 308.124 Involuntary termination of insured status for failure to receive deposits.

(a) *Notice to show cause.* When the Board of Directors or its designee has evidence that an insured depository institution is not engaged in the business of receiving deposits, other than trust funds, the Board of Directors or its designee shall give written notice of this evidence to the depository institution and shall direct the depository institution to show cause why its insured status should not be terminated under the provisions of section 8(p) of the FDIA. The insured depository institution shall have 30 days after receipt of the notice, or such longer period as is prescribed in the notice, to submit affidavits, other written proof, and any legal arguments that it is engaged in the business of receiving deposits other than trust funds.

(b) *Notice of termination date.* If, upon consideration of the affidavits, other written proof, and legal arguments, the Board of Directors determines that the depository institution is not engaged in the business of receiving deposits, other than trust funds, the finding shall be conclusive and the Board of Directors shall notify the depository institution that its insured status will terminate at the expiration of the first full semiannual assessment period following issuance of that notification.

(c) *Notification to depositors of termination of insured status.* Within the time specified by the Board of Directors and prior to the date of termination of its insured status, the depository institution shall mail a notification of termination of insured status to each depositor at the depositor's last address of record on the books of the depository institution. The depository institution shall also publish the notification in two issues of a local newspaper of general circulation and shall furnish the FDIC with proof of such publications. The notification to depositors shall include information provided in substantially the following form:

Notice

(Date)_____.

The status of the _____, as an (insured depository institution) (insured branch) under the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, will terminate on the _____ day of _____, 19_____, and its deposits will thereupon cease to be insured.

_____

(Name of depository institution or branch)

_____

(Address)

The notification may include any additional information the depository institution deems advisable, provided that the information required by this section shall be set forth in a conspicuous manner on the first page of the notification.

§ 308.125 Temporary suspension of deposit insurance.

(a) If, while an action is pending under section 8(a)(2) of the FDIA, the Board of Directors, after consultation with the appropriate Federal banking agency, finds that an insured depository institution (other than a special supervisory association to which § 308.126 of this subpart applies) has no tangible capital under the capital guidelines or regulations of the appropriate Federal banking agency, the Board of Directors may issue a Temporary Order Suspending Deposit Insurance, pending completion of the proceedings under section 8(a)(2) of the FDIA.

(b) The temporary order shall be served upon the insured institution and a copy sent to the appropriate Federal banking agency and to the appropriate State banking supervisor.

(c) The temporary order shall become effective ten days from the date of service upon the insured depository institution. Unless set aside, limited, or suspended in proceedings under section 8(a)(8)(D) of the FDIA, the temporary order shall remain effective and enforceable until an order terminating the insured status of the institution is entered by the Board of Directors and becomes final, or the Board of Directors dismisses the proceedings.

(d) Notification to depositors of suspension of insured status. Within the time specified by the Board of Directors and prior to the suspension of insured status, the depository institution shall mail a notification of suspension of insured status to each depositor at the depositor's last address of record on the books of the depository institution. The depository institution shall also publish the notification in two issues of a local newspaper of general circulation and shall furnish the FDIC with proof of such publications. The notification to depositors shall include information provided in substantially the following form:

Notice

(Date)_____.

The status of the _____, as an (insured depository institution) (insured branch) under the provisions of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, will be suspended as of the close of business on the _____

day of _____, 19_____, pending the completion of administrative proceedings under section 8(a) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act.

2. Any deposits made by you after that date, either new deposits or additions to existing deposits, will not be insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

3. Insured deposits in the (depository institution) (branch) on the _____ day of _____, 19_____, will continue to be insured for _____ after the close of business on the _____ day of _____, 19_____. Provided, however, that any withdrawals after the close of business on the _____ day of _____, 19_____, will reduce the insurance coverage by the amount of such withdrawals.

_____

(Name of depository institution or branch)

_____

(Address)

The notification may include any additional information the depository institution deems advisable, provided that the information required by this section shall be set forth in a conspicuous manner on the first page of the notification.

§ 308.126 Special supervisory associations.

If the Board of Directors finds that a savings association is a special supervisory association under the provisions of section 8(a)(8)(B) of the FDIA for purposes of temporary suspension of insured status, the Board of Directors shall serve upon the association its findings with regard to the determination that the capital of the association, as computed using applicable accounting standards, has suffered a material decline; that such association or its directors or officers, is engaging in an unsafe or unsound practice in conducting the business of the association; that such association is in an unsafe or unsound condition to continue operating as an insured association; or that such association or its directors or officers, has violated any law, rule, regulation, order, condition imposed in writing by any Federal banking agency, or any written agreement, or that the association failed to enter into a capital improvement plan acceptable to the Corporation prior to January, 1990.

Subpart G—Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings Relating to Cease-and-Desist Orders

§ 308.127 Scope.

(a) *Cease-and-desist proceedings under section 8 of the Act.* The rules and procedures of this subpart, subpart B of the Local Rules and the Uniform Rules shall apply to proceedings to order an insured nonmember bank or an institution-affiliated party to cease and desist from practices and violations described in section 8(b) of the FDIA, 12 U.S.C. 1818(b); provided that the provisions of the Uniform Rules and subpart B of the Local Rules shall not apply to the issuance of temporary cease-and-desist orders pursuant to section 8(c) of the FDIA.

(b) *Proceedings under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.* (1) The rules and procedures of this subpart, subpart B of the Local Rules and the Uniform Rules shall apply to proceedings by the Board of Directors to order a municipal securities dealer to cease and desist from any violation of law or regulation specified in section 15B(c)(5) of the Exchange Act, as amended (15 U.S.C. 78o–4(c)(5)) where the municipal securities dealer is an insured nonmember bank or a subsidiary thereof.

(2) The rules and procedures of this subpart, subpart B of the Local Rules and the Uniform Rules shall apply to proceedings by the Board of Directors to order a clearing agency or transfer agent to cease and desist from failure to comply with the applicable provisions of section 17, 17A and 19 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (15 U.S.C. 78q, 78q–1, 78s), and the applicable rules and regulations thereunder, where the clearing agency or transfer agent is an insured nonmember bank or a subsidiary thereof.

§ 308.128 Grounds for cease-and-desist orders.

(a) *General rule.* The Board of Directors or its designee may issue and have served upon any insured nonmember bank or an institution-affiliated party a Notice, as set forth in § 308.18 of the Uniform Rules for practices and violations as described in § 308.127.

(b) *Extraterritorial acts of foreign banks.* An act, violation or practice committed outside the United States by a foreign bank or an institution-affiliated party that would otherwise be a ground for issuing a cease-and-desist order under paragraph (a) of this section or a temporary cease-and-desist order under § 308.131 of this subpart, shall be a ground for an order if the Board of Directors or its designee finds that:

(1) The act, violation or practice has been, is, or is likely to be a cause of, or carried on in connection with or in furtherance of, an act, violation or practice committed within any state, territory, or possession of the United States or the District of Columbia which act, violation or practice, in and of itself, would be an appropriate basis for action by the FDIC; or

(2) The act, violation or practice, if proven, would adversely affect the insurance risk of the FDIC.

§ 308.129 Notice to state supervisory authority.

The Board of Directors or its designee shall give the appropriate state supervisory authority notification of its intent to institute a proceeding pursuant to subpart G of this part, and the grounds thereof. Any proceedings shall be conducted according to subpart G of this part, unless, within the time period specified in such notification, the state supervisory authority has effected satisfactory corrective action. No insured institution or other party who is the subject of any notice or order issued by the FDIC under this section shall have standing to raise the requirements of this subpart as grounds for attacking the validity of any such notice or order.

§ 308.130 Effective date of order and service on bank.

(a) *Effective date.* A cease-and-desist order issued by the Board of Directors after a hearing, and a cease-and-desist order issued based upon a default, shall become effective at the expiration of 30 days after the service of the order upon the bank or its official. A cease-and-desist order issued upon consent shall become effective at the time specified therein. All cease-and-desist orders shall remain effective and enforceable, except to the extent they are stayed, modified, terminated, or set aside by the Board of Directors or its designee or by a reviewing court.

(b) *Service on banks.* In cases where the bank is not the respondent, the cease-and-desist order shall also be served upon the bank.

§ 308.131 Temporary cease-and-desist order.

(a) *Issuance.* (1) When the Board of Directors or its designee determines that the violation, or the unsafe or unsound practice, as specified in the notice, or the continuation thereof, is likely to cause insolvency or significant dissipation of assets or earnings of the bank, or is likely to weaken the condition of the bank or otherwise prejudice the interests of its depositors prior to the completion of the proceedings under section 8(b) of the FDIA and § 308.128 of this subpart, the

Board of Directors or its designee may issue a temporary order requiring the bank or an institution-affiliated party to immediately cease and desist from any such violation, practice or to take affirmative action to prevent such insolvency, dissipation, condition or prejudice pending completion of the proceedings under section 8(b) of the FDIA.

(2) When the Board of Directors or its designee issues a Notice of charges pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1818(b)(1) which specifies on the basis of particular facts and circumstances that a bank's books and records are so incomplete or inaccurate that the FDIC is unable, through the normal supervisory process, to determine the financial condition of the bank or the details or purpose of any transaction or transactions that may have a material effect on the financial condition of the bank, then the Board of Directors or its designee may issue a temporary order requiring:

(i) The cessation of any activity or practice which gave rise, whether in whole or in part, to the incomplete or inaccurate state of the books or records; or

(ii) Affirmative action to restore such books or records to a complete and accurate state, until the completion of the proceedings under section 8(b) of the FDIA.

(3) The temporary order shall be served upon the bank or the institution-affiliated party named therein and shall also be served upon the bank in the case where the temporary order applies only to an institution-affiliated party.

(b) *Effective date.* A temporary order shall become effective when served upon the bank or the institution affiliated party. Unless the temporary order is set aside, limited, or suspended by a court in proceedings authorized under section 8(c)(2) of the FDIA, the temporary order shall remain effective and enforceable pending completion of administrative proceedings pursuant to section 8(b) of the FDIA and entry of an order which has become final, or with respect to paragraph (a)(2) of this section the FDIC determines by examination or otherwise that the bank's books and records are accurate and reflect the financial condition of the bank.

(c) *Uniform Rules do not apply.* The Uniform Rules and subpart B of the Local Rules shall not apply to the issuance of temporary orders under this section.

Subpart H—Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings Relating to Assessment and Collection of Civil Money Penalties for Violation of Cease-and-Desist Orders and of Certain Federal Statutes, Including Call Report Penalties

§ 308.132 Assessment of penalties.

(a) *Scope.* The rules and procedures of this subpart, subpart B of the Local Rules, and the Uniform Rules shall apply to proceedings to assess and collect civil money penalties, including civil money penalties for violation of section 7(a) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1817(a)).

(b) *Relevant considerations.* In determining the amount of the civil penalty to be assessed, the Board of Directors or its designee shall consider the financial resources and good faith of the bank or official, the gravity of the violation, the history of previous violations, and any such other matters as justice may require.

(c) *Amount.* (1) The Board of Directors or its designee may assess civil money penalties pursuant to section 8(i) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1818(i)), and § 308.01(e)(1) of the Uniform Rules.

(2) The Board of Directors or its designee may assess civil penalties pursuant to section 7(a) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1817(a)) as follows:

(i) *Late filing—Tier One Penalties.* In cases in which a bank fails to make or publish its Report of Condition and Income ("Call Report") within the appropriate time periods, the Board of Directors or its designee may assess a civil money penalty of not more than $2,000 per day where the bank maintains procedures in place reasonably adapted to avoid inadvertent error and the late filing occurred unintentionally and as a result of such error; or the bank inadvertently transmitted a Call Report which is minimally late.

(A) *First offense.* Generally, in such cases, the amount assessed shall be $300 per day for each of the first 15 days for which the failure continues, and $600 per day for each subsequent day the failure continues, beginning on the sixteenth day. For banks with less than $25,000,000 in assets, the amount assessed shall be the greater of $100 per day or 1/1000th of the bank's total assets (1/10th of a basis point) for each of the first 15 days for which the failure continues, and $200 or 1/500th of the bank's total assets, 1/5 of a basis point) for each subsequent day the failure continues, beginning on the sixteenth day.

(B) *Second offense.* Where the bank has been delinquent in making or publishing its Call Report within the preceding five quarters, the amount assessed for the most current failure shall generally be $500 per day for each of the first 15 days for which the failure continues, and $1000 per day for each subsequent day the failure continues, beginning on the sixteenth day. For banks with less than $25,000,000 in assets, those amounts, respectively, shall be 1/500th of the bank's total assets and 1/250th of the bank's total assets.

(C) *Mitigating factors.* The amounts set forth in paragraph (c)(2)(i)(A) of this section may be reduced based upon the factors set forth in paragraph (b) of this section.

(D) *Lengthy or repeated violations.* The amounts set forth in paragraph (c)(2)(i) of this section will be assessed on a case-by-case basis where the amount of time of the bank's delinquency is lengthy or the bank has been delinquent repeatedly in making or publishing its Call Reports.

(E) *Waiver.* Absent extraordinary circumstances outside the control of the bank, penalties assessed for late filing shall not be waived.

(ii) *Late filing—Tier Two penalties.* Where a bank fails to make or publish its Call Report within the appropriate time period, the Board of Directors or its designee may assess a civil money penalty of not more than $20,000 per day for each day the failure continues.

(iii) *False or misleading reports or information*—(A) *Tier One penalties.* In cases in which a bank submits or publishes any false or misleading Call Report or information, the Board of Directors or its designee may assess a civil money penalty of not more than $2,000 per day for each day the information is not corrected, where the bank maintains procedures in place reasonably adapted to avoid inadvertent error and the violation occurred unintentionally and as a result of such error; or the bank inadvertently transmits a Call Report or information which is false or misleading.

(B) *Tier Two penalties.* Where a bank submits or publishes any false or misleading Call Report or other information, the Board of Directors or its designee may assess a civil money penalty of not more than $20,000 per day for each day the information is not corrected.

(C) *Tier Three penalties.* Where a bank knowingly or with reckless disregard for the accuracy of any Call Report or information submits or publishes any false or misleading Call Report or other information, the Board of Directors or its designee may assess a civil money penalty of not more than the

lesser of $1,000,000 or 1 percent of the bank's total assets per day for each day the information is not corrected.

(D) *Mitigating factors.* The amounts set forth in paragraph (c)(2) of this section may be reduced based upon the factors set forth in paragraph (b) of this section.

§ 308.133 Effective date of, and payment under, an order to pay.

(a) *Effective date.* (1) Unless otherwise provided in the Notice, except in situations covered by paragraph (a)(2) of this section, civil penalties assessed pursuant to this subpart are due and payable 60 days after the Notice is served upon the respondent.

(2) If the respondent both requests a hearing and serves an answer, civil penalties assessed pursuant to this subpart are due and payable 60 days after an order to pay, issued after the hearing or upon default, is served upon the respondent, unless the order provides for a different period of payment. Civil penalties assessed pursuant to an order to pay issued upon consent are due and payable within the time specified therein.

(b) *Payment.* All penalties collected under this section shall be paid over to the Treasury of the United States.

Subpart I—Rules and Procedures for Imposition of Sanctions Upon Municipal Securities Dealers or Persons Associated With Them and Clearing Agencies or Transfer Agents

§ 308.134 Scope.

The rules and procedures in this subpart, subpart B of the Local Rules and the Uniform Rules shall apply to proceedings by the Board of Directors or its designee:

(a) To censure, limit the activities of, suspend, or revoke the registration of, any municipal securities dealer for which the FDIC is the appropriate regulatory agency:

(b) To censure, suspend, or bar from being associated with such a municipal securities dealer, any person associated with such a municipal securities dealer; and

(c) To deny registration, to censure limit the activities of, suspend, or revoke the registration of, any transfer agent or clearing agency for which the FDIC is the appropriate regulatory agency. This subpart and the Uniform Rules shall not apply to proceedings to postpone or suspend registration of a transfer agent or clearing agency pending final determination of denial or revocation of registration.

§ 308.135 Grounds for imposition of sanctions.

(a) *Action under section 15(b)(4) of the Exchange Act.* The Board of Directors or its designee may issue and have served upon any municipal securities dealer for which the FDIC is the appropriate regulatory agency, or any person associated or seeking to become associated with a municipal securities dealer for which the FDIC is the appropriate regulatory agency, a written notice of its intention to censure, limit the activities or functions or operations of, suspend, or revoke the registration of, such municipal securities dealer, or to censure, suspend, or bar the person from being associated with the municipal securities dealer, when the Board of Directors or its designee determines:

(1) That such municipal securities dealer or such person—

(i) has committed any prohibited act or omitted any required act specified in subparagraph (A), (D), or (E) of section 15(b)(4) of the Exchange Act, as amended (15 U.S.C. 78o);

(ii) has been convicted of any offense specified in section 15(b)(4)(B) of the Exchange Act within ten years of commencement of proceedings under this subpart; or

(iii) is enjoined from any act, conduct, or practice specified in section 15(b)(4)(c) of the Exchange Act; and

(2) That it is in the public interest to impose any of the sanctions set forth in paragraph (a) of this section.

(b) *Action under sections 17 and 17A of the Exchange Act.* The Board of Directors or its designee may issue, and have served upon any transfer agent or clearing agency for which the FDIC is the appropriate regulatory agency, a written Notice of its intention to deny registration to, censure, place limitations on the activities or function or operations of, suspend, or revoke the registration of, the transfer agent or clearing agency, when the Board of Directors or its designee determines:

(1) That the transfer agent or clearing agency has willfully violated, or is unable to comply with, any applicable provision of section 17 or 17A of the Exchange Act, as amended, or any applicable rule or regulation issued pursuant thereto; and

(2) That it is in the public interest to impose any of the sanctions set forth in paragraph (b) of this section.

§ 308.136 Notice to and consultation with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Before initiating any proceedings under § 308.135, the FDIC shall:

(a) Notify the Securities and Exchange Commission of the identity of the municipal securities dealer or associated person against whom proceedings are to be initiated, and the nature of and basis for the proposed action; and (b) Consult with the Commission concerning the effect of the proposed action on the protection of investors and the possibility of coordinating the action with any proceeding by the Commission against the municipal securities dealer or associated person.

§ 308.137 Effective date of order imposing sanctions.

An order issued by the Board of Directors after a hearing or an order issued upon default shall become effective at the expiration of 30 days after the service of the order, except that an order of censure, denial, or revocation of registration is effective when served. An order issued upon consent shall become effective at the time specified therein. All orders shall remain effective and enforceable except to the extent they are stayed, modified, terminated, or set aside by the Board of Directors, its designee, or a reviewing court, provided that orders of suspension shall continue in effect no longer than 12 months.

Subpart J—Rules and Procedures Relating to Exemption Proceedings Under Section 12(h) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

§ 308.138 Scope.

The rules and procedures of this subpart J shall apply to proceedings by the Board of Directors or its designee to exempt, in whole or in part, an issuer of securities from the provisions of sections 12(g), 13, 14(a), 14(c), 14(d), or 14(f) of the Exchange Act, as amended (15 U.S.C. 781, 78m, 78n (a), (c), (d) or (f)), or to exempt an officer of a director or beneficial owner of securities of such an issuer from the provisions of section 16 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78p).

§ 308.139 Application for exemption.

Any interested person may file a written application for an exemption under this subpart with the Executive Secretary, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 550 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20429. The application shall specify the exemption sought and the reason therefor, and shall include a statement indicating why the exemption would be consistent with the public interest or the protection of investors.

§ 308.140 Newspaper notice.

(a) *General rule.* If the Board of Directors or its designee, in its sole discretion, decides to further consider

an application for exemption, there shall be served upon the applicant instructions to publish one notification in a newspaper of general circulation in the community where the main office of the issuer is located. The applicant shall furnish proof of such publication to the Executive Secretary or such other person as may be directed in the instructions.

(b) *Contents.* The notification shall contain the name and address of the issuer and the name and title of the applicant, the exemption sought, a statement that a hearing will be held, and a statement that within 30 days of publication of the newspaper notice, interested persons may submit to the FDIC written comments on the application for exemption and a written request for an opportunity to be heard. The address of the FDIC must appear in the notice.

§ 308.141 Notice of hearing.

Within ten days after expiration of the period for receipt of comments pursuant to § 308.140, the Executive Secretary shall serve upon the applicant and any person who has requested an opportunity to be heard written notification indicating the place and time of the hearing. The hearing shall be held not later than 30 days after service of the notification of hearing. The notification shall contain the name and address of the presiding officer designated by the Executive Secretary and a statement of the matters to be considered.

§ 308.142 Hearing.

(a) *Proceedings are informal.* Formal rules of evidence, the adjudicative procedures of the APA (5 U.S.C. 554–557), the Uniform Rules and § 308.108 of subpart B of the Local Rules shall not apply to hearings under this subpart.

(b) *Hearing procedure.* (1) Parties to the hearing may appear personally or through counsel and shall have the right to introduce relevant and material documents and to make an oral statement.

(2) There shall be no discovery in proceeding under this subpart J.

(3) The presiding officer shall have discretion to permit presentation of witnesses within specified time limits, provided that a list of witnesses is furnished to the presiding officer prior to the hearing. Witnesses shall be sworn, unless otherwise directed by the presiding officer. The presiding officer may ask questions of any witness and each party may cross-examine any witness presented by an opposing party.

(4) The proceedings shall be on the record and the transcript shall be promptly submitted to the Board of Directors. The presiding officer shall make recommendations to the Board of Directors, unless the Board of Directors, in its sole discretion, directs otherwise.

§ 308.143 Decision of Board of Directors.

Following submission of the hearing transcript to the Board of Directors, the Board of Directors may grant the exemption where it determines, by reason of the number of public investors, the amount of trading interest in the securities, the nature and extent of the issuer's activities, the issuer's income or assets, or otherwise, that the exemption is consistent with the public interest or the protection of investors. Any exemption shall be set forth in an order specifying the terms of the exemption, the person to whom it is granted, and the period for which it is granted. A copy of the order shall be served upon each party to the proceeding.

Subpart K—Procedures Applicable to Investigations Pursuant to Section 10(c) of the Act

§ 308.144 Scope.

The procedures of this subpart shall be followed when an investigation is instituted and conducted in connection with any open or failed insured depository institution, any institutions making application to become insured depository institutions, and affiliates thereof, or with other types of investigations to determine compliance with applicable law and regulations, pursuant to section 10(c) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. section 1820(c)). The Uniform Rules and subpart B of the Local Rules shall not apply to investigations under this subpart.

§ 308.145 Conduct of investigation.

An investigation conducted pursuant to section 10(c) of the FDIA shall be initiated only upon issuance of an order by the Board of Directors; or by the General Counsel, the Director of the Division of Supervision, the Director of the Division of Liquidation, or their respective designees as set forth at § 303.9 of this chapter. The order shall indicate the purpose of the investigation and designate FDIC's representative(s) to direct the conduct of the investigation. Upon application and for good cause shown, the persons who issue the order of investigation may limit, quash, modify, or withdraw it. Upon the conclusion of the investigation, an order of termination of the investigation shall be issued by the persons issuing the order of investigation.

§ 308.146 Powers of person conducting investigation.

The person designated to conduct a section 10(c) investigation shall have the power, among other things, to administer oaths and affirmations, to take and preserve testimony under oath, to issue subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum and to apply for their enforcement to the United States District Court for the judicial district or the United States court in any territory in which the main office of the bank, institution, or affiliate is located or in which the witness resides or conducts business. The person conducting the investigation may obtain the assistance of counsel or others from both within and outside the FDIC. The persons who issue the order of investigation may limit, quash, or modify any subpoena or subpoena duces tecum, upon application and for good cause shown. The person conducting an investigation may report to the Board of Directors any instance where any attorney has been guilty of contemptuous conduct. The Board of Directors, upon motion of the person conducting the investigation, or on its own motion, may make a finding of contempt and may then summarily suspend, without a hearing, any attorney representing a witness from further participation in the investigation.

§ 308.147 Investigations confidential.

Investigations conducted pursuant to section 10(c) shall be confidential. Information and documents obtained by the FDIC in the course of such investigations shall not be disclosed, except as provided in part 309 of this chapter and as otherwise required by law.

§ 308.148 Rights of witnesses.

In an investigation pursuant to section 10(c):

(a) Any person compelled or requested to furnish testimony, documentary evidence, or other information, shall upon request be shown and provided with a copy of the order initiating the proceeding;

(b) Any person compelled or requested to provide testimony as a witness or to furnish documentary evidence may be represented by a counsel who meets the requirements of § 308.06 of the Uniform Rules. That counsel may be present and may:

(1) Advise the witness before, during, and after such testimony;

(2) Briefly question the witness at the conclusion of such testimony for clarification purposes; and

(3) Make summary notes during such testimony solely for the use and benefit of the witness;

(c) All persons testifying shall be sequestered. Such persons and their counsel shall not be present during the testimony of any other person, unless permitted in the discretion of the person conducting the investigation;

(d) In cases of a perceived or actual conflict of interest arising out of an attorney's or law firm's representation of multiple witnesses, the person conducting the investigation may require the attorney to comply with the provisions of § 308.08 of the Uniform Rules; and

(e) Witness fees shall be paid in accordance with § 308.14 of the Uniform Rules.

§ 308.149 Service of subpoena.

Service of a subpoena shall be accomplished in accordance with § 308.11 of the Uniform Rules.

§ 308.150 Transcripts.

(a) *General rule.* Transcripts of testimony, if any, in an investigation pursuant to section 10(c) shall be recorded by an official reporter, or by any other person or means designated by the person conducting the investigation. A witness may, solely for the use and benefit of the witness, obtain a copy of the transcript of his or her testimony at the conclusion of the investigation or, at the discretion of the person conducting the investigation, at an earlier time, provided the transcript is available. The witness requesting a copy of his or her testimony shall bear the cost thereof.

(b) *Subscription by witness.* The transcript of testimony shall be subscribed by the witness, unless the person conducting the investigation and the witness, by stipulation, have waived the signing, or the witness is ill, cannot be found, or has refused to sign. If the transcript of the testimony is not subscribed by the witness, the official reporter taking the testimony shall certify that the transcript is a true and complete transcript of the testimony.

Subpart L—Procedures and Standards Applicable to a Notice of Change in Senior Executive Officer or Director Pursuant to Section 32 of the FDIA

§ 308.151 Scope.

The rules and procedures set forth in this subpart shall apply to the notice filed by a state nonmember bank pursuant to section 32 of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1831i) for the consent of the FDIC to add to or replace an individual on the board of directors, or to employ any individual as a senior executive officer, or change the responsibilities of any individual to a position of senior executive officer where the bank:

(a) Has been chartered and operating as an insured nonmember bank for less than two years or the insured state branch has been licensed and operating as an insured branch for less than two years;

(b) Has undergone a change in control within the preceding two years; or

(c) Is not in compliance with the minimum capital requirement applicable to it or is otherwise in a troubled condition as determined by the FDIC on the basis of such institution's most recent report of condition or report of examination or inspection.

§ 308.152 Grounds for disapproval of notice.

The Board of Directors or its designee may issue a notice of disapproval with respect to a notice submitted by a state nonmember bank pursuant to section 32 of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1831i) where:

(a) The competence, experience, character, or integrity of the individual with respect to whom such notice submitted indicates that it would not be in the best interests of the depositors of the state nonmember bank to permit the individual to be employed by or associated with such bank; or

(b) The competence, experience, character, or integrity of the individual with respect to whom such notice is submitted indicated that it would not be in the best interests of the public to permit the individual to be employed by, or associated with, the state nonmember bank.

§ 308.153 Procedures where notice of disapproval issues pursuant to § 303.14 of this chapter.

(a) The Notice of Disapproval shall be served upon the insured state nonmember bank and the candidate for director or senior executive officer. The Notice of Disapproval shall:

(1) Summarize or cite the relevant considerations specified in § 308.152;

(2) Inform the individual and the bank that a request for review of the disapproval may be filed within fifteen days of receipt of the Notice of Disapproval; and

(3) Specify that additional information, if any, must be contained in the request for review.

(b) The request for review must be filed at the appropriate regional office.

(c) The request for review must be in writing and should:

(1) Specify the reasons why the FDIC should reconsider its disapproval; and

(2) Set forth relevant, substantive and material documents, if any, that for good cause were not previously set forth in the notice required to be filed pursuant to section 32 of the FDIA.

§ 308.154 Decision on review.

(a) Within 30 days of receipt of the request for review, the Board of Director or its designee, shall notify the bank and/or the individual filing the reconsideration (hereafter "petitioner") of the FDIC's decision on review.

(b) If the decision is to grant the review and approve the notice, the bank and the individual involved shall be so notified.

(c) A denial of the request for review pursuant to section 32 of the FDIA shall:

(1) Inform the petitioner that a written request for a hearing, stating the relief desired and the grounds therefor, may be filed with the Executive Secretary within 15 days after the receipt of the denial; and

(2) Summarize or cite the relevant considerations specified in § 308.152.

(d) If a decision is not rendered within 30 days, the petitioner may file a request for a hearing within fifteen days from the date of expiration.

§ 308.155 Hearing.

(a) *Hearing dates.* The Executive Secretary shall order a hearing to be commenced within 30 days after receipt of a request for a hearing filed pursuant to § 308.154. Upon request of the petitioner or the FDIC, the presiding officer or the Executive Secretary may order a later hearing date.

(b) Burden of proof. The ultimate burden of proof shall be upon the candidate for director or senior executive officer. The burden of going forward with a prima facie case shall be upon the FDIC.

(c) *Hearing procedure.* (1) The hearing shall be held in Washington, D.C. or at another designated place, before a presiding officer designated by the Executive Secretary.

(2) The provisions of §§ 308.06 through 308.12, 308.16, and 308.21 of the Uniform Rules and §§ 308.100 through 308.102, and 308.104 through 308.106 of subpart B of the Local Rules shall apply to hearings held pursuant to this subpart.

(3) The petitioner may appear at the hearing and shall have the right to introduce relevant and material documents and make an oral presentation. Members of the FDIC enforcement staff may attend the hearing and participate as a representative of the FDIC enforcement staff.

(4) There shall be no discovery in proceedings under this subpart.

(5) At the discretion of the presiding officer, witnesses may be presented within specified time limits, provided that a list of witnesses is furnished to the presiding officer and to all other parties prior to the hearing. Witnesses shall be sworn, unless otherwise directed by the presiding officer. The presiding officer may ask questions of any witness. Each party shall have the opportunity to cross-examine any witness presented by an opposing party. The transcript of the proceedings shall be furnished, upon request and payment of the cost thereof, to the petitioner afforded the hearing.

(6) In the course of or in connection with any hearing under paragraph (c) of this section the presiding officer shall have the power to administer oaths and affirmations, to take or cause to be taken depositions of unavailable witnesses, and to issue, revoke, quash, or modify subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum. Where the presentation of witnesses is permitted, the presiding officer may require the attendance of witnesses from any state, territory, or other place subject to the jurisdiction of the United States at any location where the proceeding is being conducted. Witness fees shall be paid in accordance with § 308.14 of the Uniform Rules.

(7) Upon the request of the applicant afforded the hearing, or the members of the FDIC enforcement staff, the record shall remain open for five business days following the hearing for the parties to make additional submissions to the record.

(8) The presiding officer shall make recommendations to the Board of Directors or its designee, where possible, within fifteen days after the last day for the parties to submit additions to the record.

(9) The presiding officer shall forward his or her recommendation to the Executive Secretary who shall promptly certify the entire record, including the recommendation to the Board of Directors or its designee. The Executive Secretary's certification shall close the record.

(d) *Written submissions in lieu of hearing.* The petitioner may in writing waive a hearing and elect to have the matter determined on the basis of written submissions.

(e) *Failure to request or appear at hearing.* Failure to request a hearing shall constitute a waiver of the opportunity for a hearing. Failure to appear at a hearing in person or through an authorized representative shall constitute a waiver of hearing. If a hearing is waived, the order shall be final and unappealable, and shall remain in full force and effect.

(f) *Decision by Board of Directors or its designee.* Within 45 days following the Executive Secretary's certification of the record to the Board of Directors or its designee, the Board of Directors or its designee shall notify the affected individual whether the denial of the notice will be continued, terminated, or otherwise modified. The notification shall state the basis for any decision of the Board of Directors or its designee that is adverse to the petitioner. The Board of Directors or its designee shall promptly rescind or modify the denial where the decision is favorable to the petitioner.

Subpart M—Procedures and Standards Applicable to an Application Pursuant to Section 19 of the FDIA

§ 308.156 Scope.

The rules and procedures set forth in this subpart shall apply to an application filed pursuant to section 19 of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1829) by an insured depository institution and a person, who has been convicted of any criminal offense involving dishonesty or a breach of trust or who has agreed to enter into a pretrial diversion or similar program in connection with the prosecution of such offense, to seek the prior written consent of the FDIC to become or continue as an institution-affiliated party with respect to an insured depository institution; to own or control directly or indirectly an insured depository institution; or to participate directly or indirectly in any manner in the conduct of the affairs of an insured depository institution.

§ 308.157 Relevant considerations.

(a) In proceedings under § 308.156 on an application to become or continue as an institution-affiliated party with respect to an insured depository institution; to own or control directly or indirectly an insured depository institution; or to participate directly or indirectly in any manner in the conduct of the affairs of an insured depository institution, the following shall be considered:

(1) Whether the conviction is for a criminal offense involving dishonesty or breach of trust;

(2) Whether participation directly or indirectly by the person in any manner in the conduct of the affairs of the insured depository institution constitutes a threat to the safety or soundness of the insured depository institution or the interests of its depositors, or threatens to impair public confidence in the insured depository institution;

(3) Evidence of the applicant's rehabilitation;

(4) The position to be held by the applicant;

(5) The amount of influence and control the applicant will be able to exercise over the affairs and operations of the insured depository institution;

(6) The ability of the management at the insured depository institution to supervise and control the activities of the applicant;

(7) The level of ownership which the applicant will have at the insured depository institution;

(8) Applicable fidelity bond coverage for the applicant; and

(9) Additional factors in the specific case that appear relevant.

(b) The question of whether a person, who was convicted of a crime or who agreed to enter a pretrial diversion or similar program, was guilty of that crime shall not be at issue in a proceeding under this subpart.

§ 308.158 Filing papers and effective date.

(a) *Filing with the regional office.* Applications pursuant to section 19 shall be filed in the appropriate regional office.

(b) *Effective date.* An application pursuant to section 19 may be made in writing at any time more than one year after the issuance of a decision denying an application pursuant to section 19. The removal and/or prohibition pursuant to section 19 shall continue until the applicant has been reinstated by the Board of Directors or its designee for good cause shown.

§ 308.159 Denial of applications.

A denial of an application pursuant to section 19 shall:

(a) Inform the applicant that a written request for a hearing, stating the relief desired and the grounds therefor and any supporting evidence, may be filed with the Executive Secretary within 60 days after the denial; and

(b) Summarize or cite the relevant considerations specified in § 308.157 of this subpart.

§ 308.160 Hearings.

(a) *Hearing dates.* The Executive Secretary shall order a hearing to be commenced within 60 days after receipt of a request for hearing on an application filed pursuant to § 308.159. Upon the request of the applicant or FDIC enforcement counsel, the presiding officer or the Executive Secretary may order a later hearing date.

(b) *Burden of proof.* The ultimate burden of proof shall be upon the person proposing to become or continue as an institution-affiliated party with respect to an insured depository institution; to own or control directly or indirectly an insured depository institution; or to participate directly or indirectly in any manner in the conduct of the affairs of an insured depository institution. The burden of going forward with *prima facie* case shall be upon the FDIC.

(c) *Hearing procedure.* (1) The hearing shall be held in Washington, DC, or at another designated place, before a presiding officer designated by the Executive Secretary.

(2) The provisions of §§ 308.06 through 308.12, 308.16, and 308.21 of the Uniform Rules and §§ 308.100 through 308.102 and 308.104 through 308.106 of subpart B of the Local Rules shall apply to hearings held pursuant to this subpart.

(3) The applicant may appear at the hearing and shall have the right to introduce relevant and material documents and oral argument. Members of the FDIC enforcement staff may attend the hearing and participate as a party.

(4) There shall be no discovery in proceedings under this subpart.

(5) At the discretion of the presiding officer, witnesses may be presented within specified time limits, provided that a list of witnesses is furnished to the presiding officer and to all other parties prior to the hearing. Witnesses shall be sworn, unless otherwise directed by the presiding officer. The presiding officer may ask questions of any witness. Each party shall have the opportunity to cross-examine any witness presented by an opposing party. The transcript of the proceedings shall be furnished, upon request and payment of the cost thereof, to the applicant afforded the hearing.

(6) In the course of or in connection with any hearing under this subsection, the presiding officer shall have the power to administer oaths and affirmations, to take or cause to be taken depositions of unavailable witnesses, and to issue, revoke, quash, or modify subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum. Where the presentation of witnesses is permitted, the presiding officer may require the attendance of witnesses from any state, territory, or other place subject to the jurisdiction of the United States at any location where the proceeding is being conducted. Witness fees shall be paid in accordance with § 308.14 of the Uniform Rules.

(7) Upon the request of the applicant afforded the hearing, or FDIC enforcement staff, the record shall remain open for five business days following the hearing for the parties to make additional submissions to the record.

(8) The presiding officer shall make recommendations to the Board of Directors, where possible, within 20 days after the last day for the parties to submit additions to the record.

(9) The presiding officer shall forward his or her recommendation to the Executive Secretary who shall promptly certify the entire record, including the recommendation to the Board of Directors or its designee. The Executive Secretary's certification shall close the record.

(d) *Written submissions in lieu of hearing.* The applicant or the bank may in writing waive a hearing and elect to have the matter determined on the basis of written submissions.

(e) *Failure to request or appear at hearing.* Failure to request a hearing shall constitute a waiver of the opportunity for a hearing. Failure to appear at a hearing in person or through an authorized representative shall constitute a waiver of hearing. If a hearing is waived, the person shall remain barred under section 19.

(f) *Decision by Board of Directors or its designee.* Within 60 days following the Executive Secretary's certification of the record to the Board of Directors or its designee, the Board of Directors or its designee shall notify the affected person whether the person shall remain barred under section 19. The notification shall state the basis for any decision of the Board of Directors or its designee that is adverse to the applicant.

Subpart N—Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings Relating to Suspension, Removal, and Prohibition Where a Felony is Charged

§ 308.161 Scope.

The rules and procedures set forth in this subpart shall apply to the following proceedings:

(a) To suspend an institution-affiliated party of an insured state nonmember bank, or to prohibit such party from further participation in the conduct of the affairs of the bank, where the individual is charged in any state, Federal, or territorial information or indictment, or complaint, with the commission of, or participation in, a crime involving dishonesty or breach of trust punishable by imprisonment exceeding one year under state or Federal law; or

(b) To remove from office or to prohibit an institution-affiliated party from further participation in the conduct of the affairs of the bank, except with the consent of the Board of Directors or its designee, if continued service or participation by such party poses a threat to the interests of the bank's depositors or threatens to impair public confidence in the depository institution, where a judgment of conviction or an agreement to enter a pre-trial diversion or other similar program is entered against such party, not subject to further appellate review, has been entered against the individual for the commission of, or participation in, a crime involving dishonesty or breach of trust punishable by imprisonment exceeding one year under state or Federal law.

§ 308.162 Relevant considerations.

(a)(1) In proceedings under § 308.161 (a) and (b) for a suspension, removal or prohibition order, the following shall be considered:

(i) Whether the alleged offense is a crime which is punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year under state or Federal law, and which involves dishonesty or breach of trust; and

(ii) Whether continued service or participation by the institution-affiliated party may pose a threat to the interest of the bank's depositors, or threatens to impair public confidence in the bank.

(2) Additional factors in the specific case that appear relevant to its decision to continue in effect, rescind, terminate, or modify a suspension, removal or prohibition order may be considered.

(b) The question of whether an institution-affiliated party charged with a crime is guilty of the crime charged shall not be tried or considered in a proceeding under this subpart.

§ 308.163 Notice of suspension, and orders of removal or prohibition.

(a) *Notice of suspension or prohibition.* (1) The Board of Directors or its designee may suspend or prohibit from further participation in the conduct of the affairs of the bank an institution-affiliated party by written notice of suspension or prohibition upon a determination by the Board of Directors or its designee that the grounds for such suspension or prohibition exist. The written notice of suspension or prohibition shall be served upon the institution-affiliated party and the bank.

(2) The written notice of suspension shall:

(i) Inform the institution-affiliated party that a written request for a hearing, stating the relief desired and grounds therefore, and any supporting evidence, may be filed with the

Executive Secretary within 30 days after receipt of the written notice; and

(ii) Summarize or cite to the relevant considerations specified in § 308.162 of this subpart.

(3) The suspension or prohibition shall be effective immediately upon service on the institution-affiliated party, and shall remain in effect until final disposition of the information, indictment, complaint, or until it is terminated by the Board of Directors or its designee under the provisions of § 308.164 or otherwise.

(b) *Order of removal or prohibition.* (1) The Board of Directors or its designee may issue an order removing or prohibiting from further participation in the conduct of the affairs of the bank an institution-affiliated party, when:

(i) A final judgment of conviction not subject to further appellate review is entered against the individual for a crime referred to in § 308.161(b); and

(ii) The Board of Directors or its designee determines that continued service or participation of the institution-affiliated party may threaten the interests of the bank's depositors or may threaten to impair public confidence in the bank.

(2) The order shall be served upon the institution-affiliated party and the bank.

(3) The order shall:

(i) Inform the institution-affiliated party that a written request for a hearing, stating the relief desired and grounds therefor, and any supporting evidence, may be filed with the Executive Secretary within 30 days after receipt of the order; and

(ii) Summarize or cite the relevant considerations specified in § 308.162 of this subpart.

(4) The order shall be effective immediately upon service on the institution-affiliated party, and shall remain in effect until it is terminated by the Board of Directors or its designee under the provisions of § 308.164 or otherwise.

§ 308.164 Hearings.

(a) *Hearing dates.* The Executive Secretary shall order a hearing to be commenced within 30 days after receipt of a request for hearing on an application filed pursuant to § 308.163. Upon the request of the applicant, the presiding officer or the Executive Secretary may order a later hearing date.

(b) *Hearing procedure.* (1) The hearing shall be held in Washington, DC, or at another designated place, before a presiding officer designated by the Executive Secretary.

(2) The provisions of §§ 308.06 through 308.12, 308.16, and 308.21 of the Uniform Rules and §§ 308.100 through 308.102 and 308.104 through 308.106 of subpart B of the Local Rules shall apply to hearings held pursuant to this subpart.

(3) The applicant may appear at the hearing and shall have the right to introduce relevant and material documents and oral argument. Members of the FDIC enforcement staff may attend the hearing and participate as a representative of the FDIC enforcement staff.

(4) There shall be no discovery in proceedings under this subpart.

(5) At the discretion of the presiding officer, witnesses may be presented within specified time limits, provided that a list of witnesses is furnished to the presiding officer and to all other parties prior to the hearing. Witnesses shall be sworn, unless otherwise directed by the presiding officer. The presiding officer may ask questions of any witness. Each party shall have the opportunity to cross-examine any witness presented by an opposing party. The transcript of the proceedings shall be furnished, upon request and payment of the cost thereof, to the applicant afforded the hearing.

(6) In the course of or in connection with any hearing under paragraph (b) of this section, the presiding officer shall have the power to administer oaths and affirmations, to take or cause to be taken depositions of unavailable witnesses, and to issue, revoke, quash, or modify subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum. Where the presentation of witnesses is permitted, the presiding officer may require the attendance of witnesses from any state, territory, or other place subject to the jurisdiction of the United States at any location where the proceeding is being conducted. Witness fees shall be paid in accordance with § 308.14 of the Uniform Rules.

(7) Upon the request of the applicant afforded the hearing, or the members of the FDIC enforcement staff, the record shall remain open for five business days following the hearing for the parties to make additional submissions to the record.

(8) The presiding officer shall make recommendations to the Board of Directors, where possible, within ten days after the last day for the parties to submit additions to the record.

(9) The presiding officer shall forward his or her recommendation to the Executive Secretary who shall promptly certify the entire record, including the recommendation to the Board of Directors. The Executive Secretary's certification shall close the record.

(c) *Written submissions in lieu of hearing.* The applicant or the bank may in writing waive a hearing and elect to have the matter determined on the basis of written submissions.

(d) *Failure to request or appear at hearing.* Failure to request a hearing shall constitute a waiver of the opportunity for a hearing. Failure to appear at a hearing in person or through an authorized representative shall constitute a waiver of hearing. If a hearing is waived, the order shall be final and unappealable, and shall remain in full force and effect pursuant to § 308.163.

(e) *Decision by Board of Directors or its designee.* Within 60 days following the Executive Secretary's certification of the record to the Board of Directors or its designee, the Board of Directors or its designee shall notify the affected individual whether the order of removal or prohibition will be continued, terminated, or otherwise modified. The notification shall state the basis for any decision of the Board of Directors or its designee that is adverse to the applicant. The Board of Directors or its designee shall promptly rescind or modify an order of removal or prohibition where the decision is favorable to the applicant.

Subpart O—Liability of Commonly Controlled Depository Institutions

§ 308.165 Scope.

The rules and procedures in this subpart, subpart B of the Local Rules and the Uniform Rules shall apply to proceedings in connection with the assessment of cross-guaranty liability against commonly controlled depository institutions.

§ 308.166 Grounds for assessment of liability.

Any insured depository institution shall be liable for any loss incurred or reasonably anticipated to be incurred by the corporation, subsequent to August 9, 1989, in connection with the default of a commonly controlled insured depository institution, or any loss incurred or reasonably anticipated to be incurred in connection with any assistance provided by the Corporation to any commonly controlled depository institution in danger of default.

§ 308.167 Notice of assessment of liability.

(a) The amount of liability shall be assessed upon service of a Notice of Assessment of Liability upon the liable depository institution, within two years of the date the Corporation incurred the loss.

(b) *Contents of Notice.* (1) The Notice of Assessment of Liability shall set forth:

(i) The basis for the FDIC's jurisdiction over the proceeding;

(ii) A statement of the Corporation's good faith estimate of the amount of loss it has incurred or anticipates incurring;

(iii) A statement of the method by which the estimated loss was calculated;

(iv) A proposed order directing payment by the liable institution of the FDIC's estimated amount of loss, and the schedule under which the payment will be due;

(v) In cases involving more than one liable institution, the estimated amount of each institution's share of the liability.

(2) The Notice of Assessment of Liability shall advise the liable institution(s):

(i) That an answer must be filed within 20 days after service of the Notice;

(ii) That, if a hearing is requested, a request for a hearing must be filed within 20 days after service of the Notice;

(iii) That if a hearing is requested, such hearing will be held within the judicial district in which the liable institution is found, or, in cases involving more than one liable institution, within a judicial district in which at least one liable institution is found;

(iv) That, unless the administrative law judge sets a different date, the hearing will commence 120 days after service of the Notice of Assessment of Liability;

(v) That failure to file both an answer and request a hearing shall render the Notice of Assessment a final and unappealable order.

§ 308.168 Effective date of and payment under an order to pay.

(a) Unless otherwise provided in the Notice of Assessment of Liability, payment of the assessment shall be due on or before the 21st day after service of the Assessment of Liability, under the terms of the schedule for payment set forth therein.

(b) All payments collected shall be paid to the Corporation.

(c) Failure to both file an answer and request a hearing as prescribed herein shall render the order to pay final and unappealable.

Subpart P—Rules and Procedures Relating to the Recovery of Attorney Fees and other Expenses

§ 308.169 Scope.

This subpart, and the Equal Access to Justice Act (5 U.S.C. 504), which it implements, apply to adversary adjudications before the FDIC. The types of adjudication covered by this subpart are those listed in § 308.01 of the Uniform Rules. The Uniform Rules and subpart B of the Local Rules apply to any proceedings to recover fees and expenses under this subpart.

§ 308.170 Filing, content, and service of documents.

(a) *Time to file.* An application and any other pleading or document related to the application may be filed with the Executive Secretary whenever the applicant has prevailed in the proceeding or in a discrete significant substantive portion of the proceeding within 30 days after service of the final order of the Board of Directors in disposition of the proceeding.

(b) *Content.* The application and related documents shall conform to the requirements of § 308.10 of the Uniform Rules.

(c) *Service.* The application and related documents shall be served on all parties to the adversary adjudication in accordance with § 308.11 of the Uniform Rules, except that statements of net worth shall be served only on counsel for the FDIC.

(d) Upon receipt of an application, the Executive Secretary shall refer the matter to the administrative law judge who heard the underlying adversary proceeding, provided that if the original administrative law judge is unavailable, or the Executive Secretary determines, in his or her sole discretion, that there is cause to refer the matter to a different administrative law judge, the matter shall be referred to a different administrative law judge.

§ 308.171 Responses to application.

(a) *By FDIC.* (1) Within 20 days after service of an application, counsel for the FDIC may file with the Executive Secretary and serve on all parties an answer to the application. Unless counsel for the FDIC requests and is granted an extension of time for filing or files a statement of intent to negotiate under § 308.179 of this subpart, failure to file an answer within the 20-day period will be treated as a consent to the award requested.

(2) The answer shall explain in detail any objections to the award requested and identify the facts relied on in support of the FDIC's position. If the answer is based on any alleged facts not already in the record of the proceeding, the answer shall include either supporting affidavits or a request for further proceedings under § 308.180.

(b) *Reply to answer.* The applicant may file a reply if the FDIC has addressed in its answer any of the following issues: that the position of the FDIC was substantially justified, that the applicant unduly protracted the proceedings, or that special circumstances make an award unjust. The reply shall be filed within 15 days after service of the answer. If the reply is based on any alleged facts not already in the record of the proceeding, the reply shall include either supporting affidavits or a request for further proceedings under § 308.180.

(c) *By other parties.* Any party to the adversary adjudication, other than the applicant and the FDIC, may file comments on an application within 20 days after service of the application. If the applicant is entitled to file a reply to the FDIC's answer under paragraph (b) of this section, another party may file comments on the answer within 15 days after service of the answer. A commenting party may not participate in any further proceedings on the application unless the administrative law judge determines that the public interest requires such participation in order to permit additional exploration of matters raised in the comments.

(d) *Additional response.* Additional filings in the nature of pleadings may be submitted only by leave of the administrative law judge.

§ 308.172 Eligibility of applicants.

(a) *General rule.* To be eligible for an award under this subpart, an applicant must have been named or admitted as a party to the proceeding. In addition, the applicant must show that it meets all other conditions of eligibility set out in paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) *Types of eligible applicant.* The types of eligible applicant are:

(1) An individual with a net worth of not more than $2,000,000 at the time the adversary adjudication was initiated; or

(2) Any owner of an unincorporated business, or any partnership, corporation, associations, unit of local government or organization, the net worth of which did not exceed $7,000,000 and which did not have more than 500 employees at the time the adversary adjudication was initiated.

(c) *Factors to be considered.* In determining the types of eligible applicants:

(1) An applicant who owns an unincorporated business shall be considered as an "individual" rather than a "sole owner of an unincorporated business" if the issues on which he or she prevails are related to personal interests rather than to business interests.

(2) An applicant's net worth includes the value of any assets disposed of for

the purpose of meeting an eligibility standard and excludes the value of any obligations incurred for this purpose. Transfers of assets or obligations incurred for less than reasonably equivalent value will be presumed to have been made for this purpose.

(3) The net worth of a bank shall be established by the net worth information reported in conformity with applicable instructions and guidelines on the bank's Consolidated Report of Condition and Income filed for the last reporting date before the initiation of the adversary adjudication.

(4) The employees of an applicant include all those persons who were regularly providing services for remuneration for the applicant, under its direction and control, on the date the adversary adjudication was initiated. Part-time employees are included as though they were full-time employees.

(5) The net worth and number of employees of the applicant and all of its affiliates shall be aggregated to determine eligibility. The aggregated net worth shall be adjusted if necessary to avoid counting the net worth of any entity twice. As used in this subpart, "affiliates" are individuals, corporations, and entities that directly or indirectly or acting through one or more entities control a majority of the voting shares of the applicant; and corporations and entities of which the applicant directly or indirectly owns or controls a majority of the voting shares. The Board of Directors may, however, on the recommendation of the administrative law judge, or otherwise, determine that such aggregation with regard to one or more of the applicant's affiliates would be unjust and contrary to the purposes of this subpart in light of the actual relationship between the affiliated entities. In such a case the net worth and employees of the relevant affiliate or affiliates will not be aggregated with those of the applicant. In addition, the Board of Directors may determine that financial relationships of the applicant other than those described in this paragraph constitute special circumstances that would make an award unjust.

(6) An applicant that participates in a proceeding primarily on behalf of one or more other persons or entities that would be ineligible is not itself eligible for an award.

§ 308.173 Prevailing party.

(a) *General rule.* An eligible applicant who, following an adversary adjudication has gained victory on the merits in the proceeding is a "prevailing party". An eligible applicant may be a "prevailing party" if a settlement of the proceeding was effected on terms favorable to it or if the proceeding against it has been dismissed. In appropriate situations an applicant may also have prevailed if the outcome of the proceeding has substantially vindicated the applicant's position on the significant substantive matters at issue, even though the applicant has not totally avoided adverse final action.

(b) *Segregation of costs.* When a proceeding has presented a number of discrete substantive issues, an applicant may have prevailed even though all the issues were not resolved in its favor. If such an applicant is deemed to have prevailed, any award shall be based on the fees and expenses incurred in connection with the discrete significant substantive issue or issues on which the applicant's position has been upheld. If such segregation of costs is not practicable, the award may be based on a fair proration of those fees and expenses incurred in the entire proceeding which would be recoverable under § 308.175 if proration were not performed, whether separate or prorated treatment is appropriate, and the appropriate proration percentage, shall be determined on the facts of the particular case. Attention shall be given to the significance and nature of the respective issues and their separability and interrelationship.

§ 308.174 Standards for awards.

A prevailing applicant may receive an award for fees and expenses unless the position of the FDIC during the proceeding was substantially justified or special circumstances make the award unjust. An award will be reduced or denied if the applicant has unduly or unreasonably protracted the proceedings. Awards for fees and expenses incurred before the date on which the adversary adjudication was initiated are allowable if their incurrence was necessary to prepare for the proceeding.

§ 308.175 Measure of awards.

(a) *General rule.* Awards will be based on rates customarily charged by persons engaged in the business of acting as attorneys, agents, and expert witnesses, even if the services were made available without charge or at a reduced rate, provided that no award under this subpart for the fee of an attorney or agent may exceed $75 per hour. No award to compensate an expert witness may exceed the highest rate at which the FDIC pays expert witnesses. An award may include the reasonable expenses of the attorney, agent, or expert witness as a separate item, if the attorney, agent, or expert witness ordinarily charges clients separately for such expenses.

(b) *Determination of reasonableness of fees.* In determining the reasonableness of the fee sought for an attorney, agent, or expert witness, the administrative law judge shall consider the following:

(1) If the attorney, agent, or expert witness is in private practice, his or her customary fee for like services, or, if he or she is an employee of the applicant, the fully allocated cost of the services;

(2) The prevailing rate for similar services in the community in which the attorney, agent, or expert witness ordinarily performs services;

(3) The time actually spent in the representation of the applicant;

(4) The time reasonably spent in light of the difficulty or complexity of the issues in the proceeding; and

(5) Such other factors as may bear on the value of the services provided.

(c) *Awards for studies.* The reasonable cost of any study, analysis, test, project, or similar matter prepared on behalf of an applicant may be awarded to the extent that the charge for the service does not exceed the prevailing rate payable for similar services, and the study or other matter was necessary for preparation of the applicant's case and not otherwise required by law or sound business or financial practice.

§ 308.176 Application for awards.

(a) *Contents.* An application for an award of fees and expenses under this subpart shall contain:

(1) The name of the applicant and an identification of the proceeding;

(2) A showing that the applicant has prevailed, and an identification of each issue with regard to which the applicant believes that the position of the FDIC in the proceeding was not substantially justified;

(3) A statement of the amount of fees and expenses for which an award is sought;

(4) If the applicant is not an individual, a statement of the number of its employees on the date the proceeding was initiated;

(5) A description of any affiliated individuals or entities, as defined in § 308.172(c)(5), or a statement that none exist;

(6) A declaration that the applicant, together with any affiliates, had a net worth not more than the ceiling established for it by § 308.172(b) as of the date the proceeding was initiated; and

(7) Any other matters that the applicant wishes the FDIC to consider in

determining whether and in what amount an award should be made.

(b) *Verification.* The application shall be signed by the applicant or an authorized officer or attorney of the applicant. It shall also contain or be accompanied by a written verification under oath or under penalty of perjury that the information provided in the application and supporting documents is true and correct.

§ 308.177 Statement of net worth.

(a) *General rule.* A statement of net worth must be filed with the application for an award of fees. The statement shall reflect the net worth of the applicant and all affiliates of the applicant.

(b) *Contents.* (1) The statement of net worth may be in any form convenient to the applicant which fully discloses all the assets and liabilities of the applicant and all the assets and liabilities of its affiliates, as of the time of the initiation of the adversary adjudication. Unaudited financial statements are acceptable unless the administrative law judge or the Board of Directors otherwise requires. Financial statements or reports to a Federal or State agency, prepared before the initiation of the adversary adjudication for other purposes, and accurate as of a date not more than three months prior to the initiation of the proceeding, are acceptable in establishing net worth as of the time of the initiation of the proceeding, unless the administrative law judge or the Board of Directors otherwise requires.

(2) In the case of applicants or affiliates that are not banks, net worth shall be considered for the purposes of this subpart to be the excess of total assets over total liabilities, as of the date the underlying proceeding was initiated, except as adjusted under § 308.172(c)(2). Assets and liabilities of individuals shall include those beneficially owned within the meaning of the FDIC's rules and regulations.

(3) If the applicant or any of its affiliates is a bank, the portion of the statement of net worth which relates to the bank shall consist of a copy of the bank's last Consolidated Report of Condition and Income filed before the initiation of the adversary adjudication. In all cases the administrative law judge or the Board of Directors may call for additional information needed to establish the applicant's net worth as of the initiation of the proceeding. Except as adjusted by additional information that was called for under the preceding sentence, net worth shall be considered for the purposes of this subpart to be the total equity capital (or, in the case of mutual savings banks, the total surplus accounts) as reported, in conformity with applicable instructions and guidelines, on the bank's Consolidated Report of Condition and Income filed for the last reporting date before the initiation of the proceeding.

(c) *Statement confidential.* Unless otherwise ordered by the Board of Directors or required by law, the statement of net worth shall be for the confidential use of counsel for the FDIC, the Board of Directors, and the administrative law judge.

§ 308.178 Statement of fees and expenses.

The application shall be accompanied by a statement fully documenting the fees and expenses for which an award is sought. A separate itemized statement shall be submitted for each professional firm or individual whose services are covered by the application, showing the hours spent in work in connection with the proceeding by each individual, a description of the specific services performed, the rate at which each fee has been computed, any expenses for which reimbursement is sought, the total amount claimed, and the total amount paid or payable by the applicant or by any other person or entity for the services performed. The administrative law judge or the Board of Directors may require the applicant to provide vouchers, receipts, or other substantiation for any expenses claimed.

§ 308.179 Settlement negotiations.

If counsel for the FDIC and the applicant believe that the issues in a fee application can be settled, they may jointly file with the Executive Secretary a statement of their intent to negotiate a settlement. The filing of this statement shall extend the time for filing an answer under § 308.171 for an additional 20 days, and further extensions may be granted by the administrative law judge upon the joint request of counsel for the FDIC and the applicant.

§ 308.180 Further proceedings.

(a) *General rule.* Ordinarily, the determination of a recommended award will be made by the administrative law judge on the basis of the written record. However, on request of either the applicant or the FDIC, or on his or her own initiative, the administrative law judge may order further proceedings such as an informal conference, oral argument, additional written submissions, or an evidentiary hearing. Such further proceedings will be held only when necessary for full and fair resolution of the issues arising from the application and will be conducted promptly and expeditiously.

(b) *Request for further proceedings.* A request for further proceedings under this section shall specifically identify the information sought or the issues in dispute and shall explain why additional proceedings are necessary.

(c) *Hearing.* Ordinarily, the administrative law judge shall hold an oral evidentiary hearing only on disputed issues of material fact which cannot be adequately resolved through written submissions.

§ 308.181 Recommended decision.

The administrative law judge shall file with the Executive Secretary a recommended decision on the fee application not later than 90 days after the filing of the application or 30 days after the conclusion of the hearing, whichever is later. The recommended decision shall include written proposed findings and conclusions on the applicant's eligibility and its status as a prevailing party and an explanation of the reasons for any difference between the amount requested and the amount of the recommended award. The recommended decision shall also include, if at issue, proposed findings on whether the FDIC's position was substantially justified, whether the applicant unduly protracted the proceedings, or whether special circumstances make an award unjust. The administrative law judge shall file the record of the proceeding on the fee application and, at the same time, serve upon each party a copy of the recommended decision, findings, conclusions, and proposed order.

§ 308.182 Board of Directors action.

(a) *Exceptions to recommended decision.* Within 20 days after service of the recommended decision, findings, conclusions, and proposed order, the applicant or counsel for the FDIC may file with the Executive Secretary written exceptions thereto. A supporting brief may also be filed.

(b) *Decision of Board of Directors.* The Board of Directors shall render its decision within 60 days after the matter is submitted to it by the Executive Secretary. The Executive Secretary shall furnish copies of the decision and order of the Board of Directors to the parties. Judicial review of the decision and order may be obtained as provided in 5 U.S.C. 504(c)(2).

§ 308.183 Payment of awards.

An applicant seeking payment of an award made by the Board of Directors shall submit to the executive Secretary a

statement that the applicant will not seek judicial review of the decision and order or that the time for seeking further review has passed and no further review has been sought. The FDIC will pay the amount awarded within 30 days after receiving the applicant's statement, unless judicial review of the award or of the underlying decision of the adversary adjudication has been sought by the applicant or any other party to the proceeding.

Dated: June 5, 1991.

Hoyle L. Robinson,

Executive Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY

Office of Thrift Supervision

12 CFR Parts 508, 509, 512 AND 513

List of Subjects

12 CFR Part 508

Administrative practice and procedure, Crime, Savings associations.

12 CFR Part 509

Administrative practice and procedure, Penalties..

12 CFR Part 512

Administrative practice and procedure, Investigations.

12 CFR Part 513

Accountants, Administrative practice and procedure, Lawyers.

Authority and Issuance

For the reasons set forth in the common preamble, Parts 508, 509, 512, and 513 of subchapter A of chapter V of title 12 of the Code of Federal Regulations are amended as set forth below:

SUBCHAPTER A—ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURES

PART 509—RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE IN ADJUDICATORY PROCEEDINGS

1. The authority citation for part 509 continues to read as follows:

Authority: Sec. 556, 80 Stat. 386, as amended (5 U.S.C. 556); sec. 5, 48 Stat. 132, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1464); sec. 9, as added by sec. 301, 103 Stat. 316 (12 U.S.C. 1467); sec. 10, as added by sec. 301, 103 Stat. 318 (12 U.S.C. 1467a); sec. 3, 64 Stat. 873, as amended by sec. 204, 103 Stat. 190 (12 U.S.C. 1813); sec. 12, 48 Stat. 892, as amended (15 U.S.C. 781).

2. Subpart A is revised to read as set forth at the end of the common preamble.

Subpart A—Uniform Rules of Practice and Procedure

Sec.

3. Subpart B is revised to read as follows:

Subpart B—Local Rules

§ 509.100 Scope.

The rules and procedures in this subpart B shall apply to those proceedings covered by subpart A of this part. In addition, subpart A of this part and this subpart shall apply to adjudicatory proceedings for which hearings on the record are provided for by the following statutory provisions:

(a) Proceedings under section 10(a)(2)(D) of the HOLA (12 U.S.C. 1467a(a)(2)(D)) to determine whether any person directly or indirectly exercises a controlling influence over the management or policies of a savings association or any other company;

(b) Proceedings under section 10(g)(5)(A) of the HOLA (12 U.S.C. 1467a(g)(5)(A)) to determine whether to terminate certain activities by savings and loan holding companies or to terminate ownership or control of a non-insured savings and loan holding company subsidiary; and

(c) Proceedings under section 15(c)(4) of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78o(c)(4)) ("Exchange Act") to determine whether any association or person subject to the jurisdiction of the Agency pursuant to section 12(i) of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78*l*(i)) has failed to comply with the provisions of sections 12, 13, 14(a), 14(c), 14(d) or 14(f) of the Exchange Act.

§ 509.101 Appointment of Office of Financial Institution Adjudication.

Unless otherwise directed by the Agency, all hearings under subpart A of this part and this subpart shall be conducted by administrative law judges under the direction of the Office of Financial Institution Adjudication.

§ 509.102 Discovery.

(a) *In general.* A party may take the deposition of an expert, or of a person, including another party, who has direct knowledge of matters that are non-privileged, relevant and material to the proceeding. The deposition of experts shall be limited to those experts who are expected to testify at the hearing.

(b) *Notice.* A party desiring to take a deposition shall give reasonable notice in writing to the deponent and to every other party to the proceeding. The notice must state the time and place for taking the deposition and the name and address of the person to be deposed.

(c) *Time limits.* A party may take depositions at any time after the commencement of the proceeding, but no later than ten days before the scheduled hearing date, except with permission of the administrative law judge for good cause shown.

(d) *Conduct of the deposition.* The witness must be duly sworn, and each party shall have the right to examine the witness with respect to all non-privileged, relevant and material matters of which the witness has factual, direct and personal knowledge. Objections to questions or exhibits shall be in short form, stating the grounds for objection. Failure to object to questions or exhibits

is not a waiver except where the grounds for the objection might have been avoided if the objection had been timely presented. The court reporter shall transcribe or otherwise record the witness's testimony, as agreed among the parties.

(e) *Protective orders.* At any time after notice of a deposition has been given, a party may file a motion for the issuance of a protective order. Such protective order may prohibit, terminate, or limit the scope or manner of the taking of a deposition. The administrative law judge shall grant such protective order upon a showing of sufficient grounds, including that the deposition:

(1) Is unreasonable, oppressive, excessive in scope, or unduly burdensome;

(2) Involves privileged, investigative, trial preparation, irrelevant or immaterial matters; or

(3) Is being conducted in bad faith or in such manner as to unreasonably annoy, embarrass, or oppress the deponent.

(f) *Fees.* Deposition witnesses, including expert witnesses, shall be paid the same expenses in the same manner as are paid witnesses in the district courts of the United States in proceedings in which the United States Government is a party. Expenses in accordance with this paragraph shall be paid by the party seeking to take the deposition.

(g) *Deposition subpoenas*—(1) *Issuance.* At the request of a party, the administrative law judge shall issue a subpoena requiring the attendance of a witness at a deposition. The attendance of a witness may be required from any place in any state or territory that is subject to the jurisdiction of the United States or as otherwise permitted by law.

(2) *Service.* The party requesting the subpoena shall serve it on the person named therein, or on that person's counsel, by personal service, certified mail, or overnight delivery service. The party serving the subpoena shall file proof of service with the administrative law judge.

(3) *Motion to quash.* A person named in the subpoena or a party may file a motion to quash or modify the subpoena. A statement of the reasons for the motion must accompany it and a copy of the motion must be served on the party that requested the subpoena. The motion must be made prior to the time for compliance specified in the subpoena and not more than ten days after the date of service of the subpoena, or if the subpoena is served within 15 days of the hearing, within five days after the date of service.

(4) *Enforcement of deposition subpoena.* Enforcement of a deposition subpoena shall be in accordance with the procedures of § 509.27(d).

§ 509.103 Civil money penalties.

(a) *In general.* Notwithstanding the use of the term "penalty," civil money penalties assessed pursuant to subpart A of this part or this subpart B are remedial and not punitive in nature.

(b) *Assessment.* In the event of consent, or if upon the record developed at the hearing the Agency finds that any of the grounds specified in the notice issued pursuant to § 509.18 have been established, the Agency may serve an order of assessment of civil money penalty upon the party concerned. The assessment order shall be effective immediately upon service or upon such other date as may be specified therein and shall remain effective and enforceable until it is stayed, modified, terminated, or set aside by the Agency or by a reviewing court.

(c) *Payment.* (1) Civil penalties assessed pursuant to subpart A of this part and this subpart B are payable and to be collected within 60 days after the issuance of the notice of assessment, unless the Agency fixes a different time for payment where it determines that the purpose of the civil money penalty would be better served thereby; however, if a party has made a timely request for a hearing to challenge the assessment of the penalty, the party may not be required to pay such penalty until the Agency has issued a final order of assessment following the hearing. In such instances, the penalty shall be paid within 60 days of service of such order unless the Agency fixes a different time for payment. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Agency may seek to attach the party's assets to secure payment of the potential civil money penalty or other obligation in advance of the hearing in accordance with section 8(i)(4) of the FDIA (12 U.S.C. 1818(i)(4)).

(2) Checks in payment of civil penalties shall be made payable to the Treasurer of the United States and sent to the Controller's Division of the Agency. Upon receipt, the Office shall forward the check to the Treasury of the United States.

(d) *Relevant considerations.* In determining the amount of the penalty to be assessed in any proceeding under subpart A or this subpart, the Agency shall consider the financial strength and good faith of the party against whom the penalty is assessed, the gravity of the violation, any previous violations, and such other matters as justice may require.

§ 509.104 Additional procedures.

(a) *Replies to exceptions.* Replies to written exceptions to the administrative law judge's recommended decision, findings, conclusions or proposed order pursuant to § 509.39 shall be filed within 10 days of the date such written exceptions were required to be filed.

(b) *Motions.* All motions shall be filed with the administrative law judge; provided however, once the administrative law judge has certified the record to the Agency pursuant § 509.39, all motions must be filed with the Agency within the 10 day period allowed for the filing of replies to exceptions. Responses to such motions timely filed before the Agency Head, other than motions for oral argument before the Agency Head, shall be allowed pursuant to the procedures at § 509.23(d). No response is required for the Agency Head to make a determination on a motion for oral argument.

(c) *Authority of administrative law judge.* In addition to the powers listed in § 509.5, the administrative law judge shall have the authority to deny any dispositive motion and shall follow the procedures set forth for motions for summary disposition at § 509.29 and partial summary disposition at § 509.30 in making determinations on such motions.

(d) *Notification of submission of proceeding to Agency Head.* Upon the expiration of the time for filing any exceptions, any replies to such exceptions or any motions and any ruling thereon, and after receipt of certified record, the Agency shall notify the parties within ten days of the submission of the proceeding to the Agency Head for final determination.

(e) *Extensions of time for final determination.* The Director may, *sua sponte,* extend the time for final determination by signing an order of extension of time within the 90 day time period and notifying the parties of such extension thereafter.

(f) *Service upon the Agency.* Service of any document upon the Agency shall be made by filing with the individuals and/or offices designated by the Agency in its Notice issued pursuant to § 509.46(d) or the notification in paragraph (d) of this section or such other means reasonably suited to provide notice of the person and/or office designated to receive filings.

(g) *Presence of electronic media.* Notwithstanding the authority of the administrative law judge to set the time, place and manner of hearings, including the presence of the media and general public, the decision as to the presence of

electronic media shall be reserved to the Agency Head. Any petition to permit electronic media shall be filed with the Agency Head no later than thirty days in advance of the hearing. The Agency Head may decide to grant or deny the petition without soliciting the views of the parties. If the petition is granted, the Agency Head shall promptly serve the administrative law judge and all parties with the determination.

PART 508—[AMENDED]

4. The authority citation for part 508 continues to read as follows:

Authority: Sec. 5, 48 Stat. 132, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1464); sec. 2, 64 Stat. 879, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1818).

§ 508.7 [Amended]

5. Section 508.7(a) is amended by adding "509.5" in place of "509.4".

§ 508.13 [Amended]

6. Section 508.13(b) is amended by adding "509.39" in place of "509.27(b)".

§ 508.14 [Amended]

7. Section 508.14 is amended by revising "509.9, 509.10, 509.11, 509.12, and" to read "509.10, 509.11, and 509.12".

PART 512—[AMENDED]

8. The authority citation for part 512 continues to read as follows:

Authority: Sec. 3, as added by sec. 301, 103 Stat. 278 (12 U.S.C. 1462a); sec. 4, as added by sec. 301, 103 Stat. 280 (12 U.S.C. 1463); sec. 5, 48 Stat. 132, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1464); sec. 9, as added by sec. 301, 103 Stat. 316 (12 U.S.C. 1467); sec. 10, as added by sec. 301, 103 Stat. 318 (12 U.S.C. 1467a); sec. 3, 64 Stat. 873, as amended by sec. 204, 103 Stat. 190 (12 U.S.C. 1813); sec. 12, 48 Stat. 892, as amended (15 U.S.C. 781).

§ 512.7 [Amended]

9. Section 512.7(b) is amended by adding "Chief Counsel or his designee" in place of "Director or any Deputy Director of Enforcement" and "Director or the Deputy Director", each place they appear.

PART 513—[AMENDED]

10. The authority citation for part 513 continues to read as follows:

Authority: Sec. 3, as added by sec. 301, 103 Stat. 278 (12 U.S.C. 1462a); sec. 4, as added by sec. 301, 103 Stat. 280 (12 U.S.C. 1463); sec. 5, 48 Stat. 132, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1464); sec. 12, sec. 3, 64 Stat. 873, as amended by sec. 204, 103 Stat. 190 (12 U.S.C. 1813); 48 Stat. 892, as amended (15 U.S.C. 781).

§ 513.1 [Amended]

11. Section 513.1 is amended in the last sentence by adding "509.6(a)(1)" in place of "509.5(a)(2)".

§ 513.5 [Amended]

12. Section 513.5(b) is amended by adding "508.3" and "508.7" in place of "509a.3" and "509a.7", respectively.

Dated: June 6, 1991.

Timothy Ryan,

Director.

NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION

12 CFR Part 747

List of Subjects in 12 CFR Part 747

Administrative practice and procedure, Bank deposit insurance, Claims, Credit unions, Equal Access to Justice, Hearing procedures, Investigations, Lawyers, Penalties.

Authority and Issuance

For the reasons set forth in the common preamble, part 747 of chapter VII of title 12 of the Code of Federal Regulations is proposed to be amended as set forth below:

PART 747—ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS, ADJUDICATIVE HEARINGS, RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE, AND INVESTIGATIONS

1. The authority citation for part 747 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 12 U.S.C. 1766, 12 U.S.C. 1786, 12 U.S.C. 1784, 12 U.S.C. 1787.

2. Subpart A is revised to read as set forth at the end of the common preamble.

Subpart A—Uniform Rules of Practice and Procedure

Sec.

3. Section 747.01 (Scope) is redesignated as § 747.0 and revised to read as follows:

§ 747.0 Scope of part 747.

(a) This part describes the various formal and informal adjudicative actions and non-adjudicative proceedings available to the National Credit Union Administration Board ("NCUA Board"), the grounds for those actions and proceedings, and the procedures used in formal and informal hearings related to each available action. As mandated by section 916 of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989, this part incorporates uniform rules of practice and procedure governing formal adjudications generally, as well as proceedings involving cease-and-desist actions, assessment of civil money penalties, and removal, prohibition and suspension actions. In addition, the Uniform Rules are incorporated in other subparts of this part which provide for formal adjudications. The administrative actions and proceedings described herein, as well as the grounds and hearing procedures for each, are controlled by sections 120(b) (except where the Federal credit union is closed due to insolvency), 202(a)(3), 206, and 304(c)(3) of the FCUA. Should any provision of this part be inconsistent with these or any other provisions of the FCUA, as amended, the FCUA shall control. Judicial enforcement of any action or order described in this part, as well as judicial review thereof, shall be as prescribed under the FCUA (12 U.S.C. 1751 *et seq.*) and the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 500 *et seq.*).

(b) As used in this part, the term insured credit union means any Federal credit union or any state chartered credit union insured under subchapter II of the FCUA unless the context indicates otherwise.

4. Subparts B through G, I, and J are revised and subpart H is amended by revising the subpart heading and adding §§ 747.701 through 747.703 to read as follows:

Subpart B—Local Rules of Practice and Procedure [Reserved]

Subpart C—Local Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings for the Involuntary Termination of Insured Status

Subpart D—Local Rules and Procedures Applicable to Suspensions and Prohibitions Where Felony Charged

Subpart E—Local Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings Relating to the Suspension or Revocation of Charters and to Involuntary Liquidations

Subpart F—Local Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings Relating to the Termination of Membership in the Central Liquidity Facility [Reserved]

Subpart G—Local Rules and Procedures Applicable to Recovery of Attorneys Fees and Other Expenses Under the Equal Access To Justice Act in NCUA Board Adjudications

Subpart H—Local Rules and Procedures Applicable to Investigations

Subpart I—Local Rules Applicable to Formal Investigative Proceedings

Subpart J—Local Procedures and Standards Applicable to a Notice of Change in Senior Executive Officers, Directors or Committee Members Pursuant to Section 212 of the FCUA

Subpart B—Local Rules of Practice and Procedure [Reserved]

Subpart C—Local Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings for the Involuntary Termination of Insured Status

§ 747.201 Scope.

Under the authority of section 206(b) of the FCUA, the NCUA Board may terminate the insured status of an insured credit union upon the grounds set forth therein and enumerated in § 747.202. The procedure for terminating the insured status of an insured credit union as therein prescribed will be followed and hearings required thereunder will be conducted in accordance with the rules and procedures set forth in this subpart and subpart A of this part. To the extent any rule or procedure of subpart A of this part is inconsistent with a rule or procedure prescribed in this subpart C, subpart C shall control.

§ 747.202 Grounds for termination of insurance.

The NCUA Board may institute proceedings to terminate the insured status of an insured credit union whenever it determines that an insured credit union—

(1) is engaging or has engaged in unsafe or unsound practices in conducting its business;

(2) is in unsafe or unsound condition to continue as an insured credit union; or

(3) is violating or has violated any applicable law, rule, regulation, order, written condition imposed by the NCUA Board in response to any application or request of the credit union, or any written agreement entered into with the NCUA Board.

§ 747.203 Notice of charges.

(a) Whenever the NCUA Board determines that grounds for termination of insured status exists, it will, for the purpose of securing correction of errant or illegal conditions, serve a notice of charges upon the concerned credit union. This notice will contain a statement describing the unsafe or unsound practices, condition or the relevant violations.

(b) In the case of an insured State-chartered credit union, the NCUA Board shall send a copy of the Notice of Charges to the appropriate State authority, if any, having supervision over the credit union.

§ 747.204 Notice of intention to terminate insured status.

Unless correction of the practices, condition, or violations set forth in the Notice of Charges is made within 120 days after service of such statement, or within a shorter period of not less than 20 days after such service as the NCUA Board may require in any case where it determines that the insurance risk with respect to such credit union could be unduly jeopardized by further delay or as the appropriate State supervisory authority shall require in the case of an insured State-chartered credit union, the Board, if it determines to proceed further, shall give to the credit union not less than 30 days' written notice of its intent to terminate the status of the credit union as an insured credit union. The notice shall contain a statement of the facts constituting the alleged unsafe or unsound practices or conditions or violations on which a hearing will be held. Such hearing shall commence not earlier than 30 days nor later than 60 days after the date of service of such notice upon the credit union, unless an

earlier or later date is set by the NCUA Board at the request of the credit union.

§ 747.205 Order terminating insured status.

If, upon the record of the hearing held pursuant to § 747.204, the NCUA Board finds that any unsafe or unsound practice or condition or violation specified in the notice has been established and has not been corrected within the time prescribed under § 747.204, the NCUA Board may issue and serve upon the credit union an order terminating its status as an insured credit union on a date subsequent to the date of such finding and subsequent to the expiration of the time specified in the Notice.

§ 747.206 Consent to termination of insured status.

Unless the credit union appears at the hearing designated in the notice of hearing by a duly authorized representative, it will be deemed to have consented to the termination of its status as an insured credit union. In the event the credit union fails to so appear at such hearing, the administrative law judge shall forthwith report the matter to the NCUA Board and the NCUA Board may thereupon issue an order terminating the credit union's insured status.

§ 747.207 Notice of termination of insured status.

Prior to the effective date of the termination of the insured status of an insured credit union under section 206(b) of the FCUA and at such time as the Board shall specify, the credit union shall mail to each member at his or her last address of record on the books of the credit union, and publish in not less than two issues of a local newspaper of general circulation, notices of the termination of its insured status, and the credit union shall furnish the NCUA Board with proof of publication of such notice. The notice shall be as follows:

Notice

(Date)

1. The status of the _____ as an insured credit union under the provisions of the Federal Credit Union Act, will terminate as of the close of business on the ____ day of _____;

2. Any deposits made by you after that date, either new deposits or additions to existing accounts, will not be insured by the National Credit Union Administration;

3. Accounts in the credit union on the ____ day of _____, ____ up to a maximum of $100,000 for each member, will continue to be insured, as provided by the Federal Credit Union Act, for one (1) year after the close of business on the ____ day of _____, _____: Provided, however, that any withdrawals after the close of business on the day of _____, _____; will reduce the insurance coverage by the amount of such withdrawals.

(Name of Credit Union)
(Address)

§ 747.208 Duties after termination.

(a) After the termination of the insured status of any credit union under section 206(b) of the FCUA, insurance of its member accounts to the extent they were insured on the effective date of such termination, less any amounts thereafter withdrawn which reduce the accounts below the amount covered by insurance on the effective date of such termination, shall continue for a period of one year, but no shares issued by the credit union or deposits made after the date of such termination shall be insured by the NCUA Board.

(b) The credit union shall continue to pay premiums to the NCUA Board during such period and the Board shall have the right to examine the credit union from time to time during the period. The credit union shall, in all other respects, be subject to the duties and obligations of an insured credit union during the one year period. If the credit union is closed for liquidation within this period, the Board shall have the same powers and rights with respect to such credit union as in the case of an insured credit union.

Subpart D—Local Rules and Procedures Applicable to Suspensions and Prohibitions Where Felony Charged

§ 747.301 Scope.

The rules and procedures set forth in this subpart are applicable to informal proceedings conducted by the NCUA Board, or a Presiding Officer designated by the Board, pursuant to section 206(i) of the FCUA to suspend, remove, and/or prohibit from office or from further participation any institution-affiliated party of an insured credit union when such a party is charged in, or convicted as a result of, or enters a pretrial diversion or other similar program as a result of, any state, Federal or territorial information or indictment or complaint, with the commission of or participation in a crime involving dishonesty or breach of trust, which crime is punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year under state or Federal law. Subpart A of this part does not apply to proceedings under this subpart.

§ 747.302 Rules of practice; remainder of board of directors.

Except as otherwise specifically provided in this subpart, the following provisions shall apply to proceedings conducted under this subpart:

(a)(1) *Power of attorney and notice of appearance.* Any person who is a member in good standing of the bar of the highest court of any State, possession, territory, Commonwealth, or the District of Columbia may represent others before the NCUA Board or Presiding Officer designated by the NCUA Board upon filing with the NCUA Board a written declaration that he or she is currently qualified as provided by this paragraph, and is authorized to represent the particular party on whose behalf he acts. Any other person desiring to appear before or transact business with the NCUA Board in a representative capacity may be required to file with the NCUA Board a power of attorney showing his or her authority to act in such capacity, and he or she may be required to show to the satisfaction of the NCUA Board that he or she has the requisite qualifications. Attorneys and representatives of parties to proceedings shall file a written notice of appearance with the NCUA Board or with the Presiding Officer designated by the NCUA Board.

(2) *Summary suspension.* Contemptuous conduct by any person at an argument before the NCUA Board or at the hearing before a Presiding Officer shall be grounds for exclusion therefrom and suspension for the duration of the argument or hearing.

(b)(1) *Notice of hearing.* Whenever a hearing within the scope of this subpart is ordered by the NCUA Board, a notice of hearing shall be given by the NCUA Board to the party afforded the hearing and to any appropriate state supervisory authority. The notice shall state the time, place, and nature of the hearing and the legal authority and jurisdiction under which the hearing is to be held, and shall contain a statement of the matters of fact or law constituting the grounds for the hearing. It shall be delivered by personal service, by registered or certified mail to the last known address, or by other appropriate means, not later than 30 nor earlier than 60 days before the hearing.

(2) *Party.* The term "party" means a person or agency named or admitted as a party, or any person or agency who has filed a written request and is entitled as of right to be admitted as a party; but a person or agency may be admitted for a limited purpose.

(c)(1) *Computation of time.* In computing any period of time prescribed or allowed by this subpart, the date of the act, event or default from which the designated period of time begins to run is not to be included. The last day so

computed shall be included, unless it is a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday in the District of Columbia, in which event the period shall run until the end of the next day which is neither a Saturday, Sunday, nor such legal holiday. Intermediate Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays shall be included in the computation unless the time within which the act is to be performed is ten days or less in which event Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays shall not be included.

(2) *Service by mail.* Whenever any party has the right or is required to do some act or take some proceeding, within a period of time prescribed in this subpart, after the service upon him of any document or other paper of any kind, and such service is made by mail, three days shall be added to the prescribed period from the date when the matter served is deposited in the U.S. mail.

(d) *Nonpublication of submissions.* Unless and until otherwise ordered by the NCUA Board, the notice of hearing, the transcript, written materials submitted during the hearing, the Presiding Officer's recommendation to the NCUA Board and any other papers filed in connection with a hearing under this subpart, shall not be made public, and shall be for the confidential use only of the NCUA Board, the Presiding Officer, the parties and appropriate authorities.

(e) *Remainder of board of directors.* (1) If at any time, because of the suspension of one or more directors pursuant to this subpart, there shall be on the board of directors of an insured credit union less than a quorum of directors not so suspended, all powers and functions vested in or exercisable by such board shall vest in and be exercisable by the director or directors on the board not so suspended, until such time as there shall be a quorum on the board of directors.

(2) In the event all of the directors of an insured credit union are suspended pursuant to this subpart, the NCUA Board shall appoint persons to serve temporarily as directors in their place pending the termination of such suspensions, or until such time as those who have been suspended cease to be directors of the credit union and their respective successors have been elected by the members at an annual or special meeting and have taken office.

(3) Directors appointed temporarily by the NCUA Board pursuant to paragraph (e)(2) of this section, shall, within 30 days following their appointment, call a special meeting for the election of new directors, unless during such 30-day period—

(i) the regular annual meeting is convened; or

(ii) the suspensions giving rise to the appointment of temporary directors are terminated.

§ 747.303 Notice of suspension or prohibition.

Whenever an institution-affiliated party of an insured credit union is charged in any state, Federal or territorial information or indictment or complaint with the commission of or participation in a crime involving dishonesty or breach of trust, which crime is punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year under state or Federal law, the NCUA Board may, if continued service or participation by the concerned party may pose a threat to the interests of the credit union's members or may threaten to impair public confidence in the credit union, by written notice served upon such party, suspend him or her from office, or prohibit him or her from further participation in any manner in the affairs of the credit union, or both. A copy of the notice of suspension or prohibition shall also be served upon the credit union. This suspension or prohibition shall remain in effect until such information, indictment, or complaint is finally disposed of, or until such suspension or prohibition is terminated by the NCUA Board.

§ 747.304 Removal or permanent prohibition.

In the event that a judgment of conviction or an agreement to enter a pretrial diversion or other similar program is entered against the institution-affiliated party, and at such time as the judgment, if any, is not subject to further appellate review, the NCUA Board may, if continued service or participation by such party may pose a threat to the interests of the credit union's members or may threaten to impair public confidence in the credit union, issue and serve upon the individual an order removing him or her from office or prohibiting him or her from further participation in any manner in the conduct of the affairs of the credit union except with the consent of the NCUA Board. A copy of such order will also be served upon such credit union. A finding of not guilty or other disposition of the charge will not preclude the NCUA Board from thereafter instituting proceedings, pursuant to the provisions of section 206(g) of the FCUA and subpart A of this part, to remove such director, committee member, officer, or other person from office or to prohibit his or her further participation in the affairs of the credit union.

§ 747.305 Effectiveness of suspension or removal until completion of hearing.

Any notice of suspension or prohibition issued under § 747.303 and any order of removal or prohibition issued under § 747.304 will be effective upon service on the concerned party and will remain effective and outstanding until the completion of any hearing or appeal authorized under section 206(i) of the FCUA and this subpart, unless such notice of suspension or order of removal is terminated by the NCUA Board.

§ 747.306 Notice of opportunity for hearing.

(a) Any notice of suspension or prohibition issued pursuant to § 747.303, and any order of removal or prohibition issued pursuant to § 747.404, shall be accompanied by a further notice to the concerned individual that he or she may, within 30 days of service of such notice, request in writing an informal hearing at which he or she may present evidence and argument that his or her continued service to or participation in the conduct of the affairs of the credit union does not, or is not likely to, pose a threat to the interests of the credit union's members or threaten to impair confidence in the credit union. Any notice of the opportunity for such a hearing shall be accompanied by a description of the hearing procedure and the criteria to be considered.

(b) A request for a hearing filed pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section shall state with particularity the relief desired, the grounds therefor, and shall include, when available, supporting evidence. The request and supporting evidence shall be filed in writing with the Secretary of the Board, National Credit Union Administration, Washington, DC 20456.

§ 747.307 Hearing.

(a) Upon receipt of a request for a hearing which complies with § 747.306, the NCUA Board will order an informal hearing to commence within the following 30 days in Washington, DC, or at such other place as the NCUA Board designates, before a Presiding Officer designated by the NCUA Board to conduct the hearing. At the request of the concerned party, the NCUA Board may order the hearing to commence at a time more than 30 days after the receipt of the request for such hearing.

(b) The notice of hearing shall be served by the NCUA Board upon the party or parties afforded the hearing and shall set forth the time and place of the hearing and the name and address of the Presiding Officer.

(c) The subject individual may appear at the hearing personally, through counsel, or personally with counsel. The individual shall have the right to introduce relevant and material written materials (or, at the discretion of the NCUA Board, oral testimony), and to present an oral argument before the Presiding Officer. A member of the enforcement staff of the Office of General Counsel of the NCUA may attend the hearing and may participate as a party. Neither the formal rules of evidence nor the adjudicative procedures of the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 554–557), nor Subpart A of this part shall apply to the hearing. The proceedings shall be recorded and a transcript furnished to the individual upon request and after the payment of the cost thereof. The NCUA Board shall have the discretion to permit the presentation of witnesses, within specified time limits, so long as a list of such witnesses is furnished to the Presiding Officer at least ten days prior to the hearing. Witnesses shall not be sworn, unless specifically requested by either party or directed by the Presiding Officer. The Presiding Officer may examine any witness and each party shall have the opportunity to cross-examine any witness presented by an opposing party. Upon the request of either the subject individual or the representative of the Office of General Counsel, the record shall remain open for a period of five business days following the hearing, during which time the parties may make any additional submissions to the record. Thereafter, the record shall be closed.

(d) In the course of or in connection with any proceeding under this subpart, the NCUA Board and the Presiding Officer will have the power to administer oaths and affirmations, to take or cause depositions to be taken, and to issue, revoke, quash, or modify subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum. If the NCUA Board permits the presentation of witnesses, the NCUA Board or the Presiding Officer may require the attendance of witnesses from any place in any state or in any territory or other place subject to the jurisdiction of the United States at any designated place where such proceeding is being conducted. Witnesses subpoenaed shall be paid the same fees and mileage as are paid witnesses in the District Courts of the United States. The NCUA Board or the Presiding Officer may require the production of documents from any place in any such state, territory, or other place.

(e) The Presiding Officer will make his or her recommendations to the Board, where possible, within ten business days following the close of the record.

§ 747.308 Waiver of hearing; failure to request hearing or review based on written submissions; failure to appear.

(a) The subject individual may, in writing, waive an oral hearing and instead elect to have the matter determined by the NCUA Board on the basis of written submissions alone.

(b) Should any concerned party fail to request in writing an oral hearing or consideration based on written submissions alone within 30 days of service of the notice described in § 747.306, he or she will be deemed to have consented to the NCUA Board's action.

(c) Unless the concerned party appears at the hearing personally or by duly appointed representative, he or she will be deemed to have consented to the NCUA Board's action.

§ 747.309 Decision of the NCUA Board.

(a) Within 60 days following the hearing, or receipt of the subject individual's written submissions where hearing has been waived pursuant to § 747.308, the NCUA Board shall notify the institution-affiliated party whether the suspension or prohibition will be continued, terminated, or otherwise modified, or whether the order of removal or prohibition will be rescinded or otherwise modified. Such notification shall contain a statement of the basis for the decision of the NCUA Board, if that decision is adverse to the respondent party. In the case of a decision favorable to the respondent on the subject of a prior order of removal or prohibition, the NCUA Board shall take prompt action to rescind or otherwise modify the order of removal or prohibition.

§ 747.310 Reconsideration by the NCUA Board.

(a) The subject individual shall have ten business days following receipt of the decision of the NCUA Board in which to petition the NCUA Board for initial reconsideration.

(b) The subject individual also shall be entitled to petition the NCUA Board for reconsideration of its decision any time after the expiration of a 12-month period from the date of the NCUA Board's decision, but no petition for reconsideration may be made within 12 months of a previous petition.

(c) Any petition shall state with particularity the basis for reconsideration, the relief sought, and any exceptions the individual has to the NCUA Board's findings. An individual's petition may be accompanied by a memorandum of points and authorities in support of his or her petition and any supporting documentation the individual may wish to have considered.

(d) No hearing need be granted on such petition for reconsideration. Promptly following receipt of the petition, the Board shall render its decision.

§ 747.311 Relevant considerations.

In deciding the question of suspension, prohibition, or removal under this subpart, the NCUA Board will consider the following:

(a) Whether the alleged offense is a crime which is punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year under state or Federal law, and which involves dishonesty or breach of trust;

(b) Whether the continued presence of the subject individual in his or her position may pose a threat to the interests of the credit union's members because of the nature and extent of the individual's participation in the affairs of the insured credit union and/or the nature of the offense with the commission of or participation in which the individual has been charged;

(c) Whether there is cause to believe that there may be an erosion of public confidence in the integrity, safety, or soundness of a particular credit union (either generally or in the particular locality in which the credit union is situated) if the subject individual is permitted to remain in his or her position in an insured credit union;

(d) Whether the individual is covered by the credit union's fidelity bond and, if so, whether the bond is likely to be revoked, or whether coverage under the bond will be affected adversely as a result of the information, indictment, complaint, judgment of conviction or entry into a pretrial diversion or other similar program; and

(e) The NCUA Board may consider any other factors which, in the specific case, appear relevant to the decision to continue in effect, rescind, terminate, or modify a suspension, prohibition, or removal order, except that it shall not consider the ultimate question of the guilt or innocence of the subject individual with regard to the crime with which he or she has been charged.

Subpart E—Local Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings Relating to the Suspension or Revocation of Charters and to Involuntary Liquidations

§ 747.401 Scope.

The rules and procedures set forth in this subpart and Subpart A of this part

are applicable to proceedings by the NCUA Board pursuant to section 120(b)(1) of the FCUA to suspend or revoke the charter of a solvent Federal credit union, and to place a solvent Federal credit union into involuntary liquidation. To the extent a rule or procedure set forth in Subpart A of this part is inconsistent with a rule or procedure set forth in this subpart E, subpart E shall control.

§ 747.402 Grounds for suspension or revocation of charter and for involuntary liquidation.

(a) *Grounds in general.* The NCUA Board may suspend or revoke the charter of any Federal credit union, and place such credit union into involuntary liquidation and appoint a liquidating agent therefor, upon its finding that the credit union has violated any provision of its charter or bylaws or of the FCUA or regulations issued thereunder.

(b) *Immediate suspension.* In any case where the Board determines that the grounds set forth in paragraph (a) of this section exist and that immediate action is necessary in order to prevent further dissipation of credit union assets or earnings, or further weakening of the credit union's condition, or to otherwise protect the interest of the credit union's insured members or the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund, it may order without prior notice the immediate suspension of the charter of such credit union, and if the circumstances so warrant, may take possession of all books, records, assets, and property of every description of such credit union.

§ 747.403 Notice of intent to suspend or revoke charter; notice of suspension.

(a) Upon its determination that one or more of the grounds listed in § 747.402(a) exists, or that because of conditions described in § 747.402(b) immediate suspension of charter is necessary, the NCUA Board shall cause to be served upon that credit union a notice of intent to suspend or revoke charter and of intent to place into involuntary liquidation, or a notice of suspension. Such notice shall contain a statement of the facts which constitute the grounds for the action, a recitation of the options available to the credit union under paragraph (b) of this section, and an explanation of the results that will occur if the credit union fails to exercise said options.

(b) Not later than 40 days after the receipt of the notice provided for in paragraph (a) of this section, the Federal credit union may file with the NCUA Board a statement in writing setting forth the grounds and reasons why its charter should not be suspended or revoked and why it should not be placed into involuntary liquidation; or in lieu of a written statement, request an oral hearing which shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures set forth in this subpart. This statement or request shall be accompanied by a certified copy of a resolution of the board of directors of the Federal credit union concerned authorizing such statement or request, such certification to be made by the president and secretary of the board of directors.

(c) If the Federal credit union concerned does not exercise either alternative available in paragraph (b) of this section within the time required, it shall be deemed to have admitted the facts alleged in the notice and shall be deemed to have consented to the relief sought.

§ 747.404 Notice of hearing.

(a) Upon receipt of a request for hearing which complies with § 747.403(b), the NCUA Board shall transmit the request to the Office of Financial Institution Adjudication ("OFIA"). Such hearing shall commence no earlier than 30 days nor later than 60 days after the date the OFIA receives the request for a hearing, unless an earlier or later date is requested by the Federal credit union concerned and is granted by the NCUA Board in its discretion.

(b) Except as provided in § 747.405(b), the procedures of the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 554–557) and subpart A of this part will apply to the hearing.

(c) Unless the Federal credit union shall appear at such hearing by a duly authorized representative it shall be deemed to have consented to the suspension or revocation of its charter and to the placing of said credit union into involuntary liquidation.

§ 747.405 Issuance of order.

(a) In the event of such consent as referred to in §§ 747.403(c) or 747.404(c), or if upon the record made at any such hearing as referred to in § 747.403(b), the NCUA Board finds that the charter of the Federal credit union concerned should be suspended or revoked and the credit union closed and placed into involuntary liquidation, it shall cause to be served on such credit union an order directing the suspension or revocation of its charter and directing that it be closed and placed into involuntary liquidation. Such order shall contain a statement of the findings upon which the order is based. Additionally, the NCUA Board shall appoint a liquidating agent or agents.

(b) The NCUA Board shall render its decision and cause such order to be served not later than 45 days after receipt of consent, or written submissions as the case may be, or in the case of a formal hearing after service or the notice of submission referred to in § 747.40(a).

(c) Upon the receipt of a copy of the order which provides that the Federal credit union concerned be placed into involuntary liquidation, the officers and directors of that Federal credit union shall immediately deliver to the agent for the liquidating agent possession and control of all books, records, assets, and property of every description of the Federal credit union, and the agent for the liquidating agent shall proceed to convert said assets to cash, collect all debts due to said Federal credit union and to wind up its affairs in accordance with the provisions of the FCUA.

§ 747.406 Cancellation of charter.

Upon the completion of the liquidation and certification by the agent for the liquidating agent that the distribution of the assets of the Federal credit union has been completed, the NCUA Board shall cancel the charter of the Federal credit union concerned.

Subpart F—Local Rules and Procedures Applicable to Proceedings Relating to the Termination of Membership in the Central Liquidity Facility [Reserved]

Subpart G—Local Rules and Procedures Applicable to Recovery of Attorneys Fees and Other Expenses Under the Equal Access to Justice Act in NCUA Board Adjudications

§ 747.601 Purpose and scope.

This subpart contains the regulations of the NCUA implementing the Equal Access to Justice Act (5 U.S.C. 504), as amended ("EAJA"). The EAJA provides for the award of attorneys fees and other expenses to eligible individuals and entities who are parties to proceedings conducted under this part. An eligible party may receive an award when it prevails over NCUA in a proceeding, or in a significant and discrete substantive portion of the proceeding, unless the position of the NCUA was substantially justified or special circumstances make an award unjust. The rules in this subpart describe the parties eligible for fee awards, explain how to apply for awards and the procedures and standards that NCUA will use to make them. To the extent a rule or procedure set forth in subpart A of this part is inconsistent with a rule or

procedure set forth in this subpart G, subpart G will control.

§ 747.602 Eligibility of applicants.

(a) To be eligible for an award of attorneys fees and expenses, an applicant must be a prevailing party in the proceeding for which it seeks an award and must be:

(1) An individual with a net worth of not more than $2 million;

(2) The sole owner of an unincorporated business who has a net worth of not more than $7 million, including both personal and business interests and not more than 500 employees at the time the proceeding was commenced (an applicant who owns an unincorporated business will be considered as an "individual" rather than a "sole owner of an unincorporated business" if the issues on which the applicant prevails are related primarily to personal interests rather than to business interests);

(3) A charitable or other tax-exempt organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3)) with not more than 500 employees;

(4) A cooperative association as defined in section 15(a) of the Agricultural Marketing Act (12 U.S.C. 1141j(a)) with not more than 500 employees; or

(5) Any other partnership, corporation, association, or public or private organization with a net worth of not more than $7 million and not more than 500 employees.

(b) For the purpose of determining eligibility, the net worth of an applicant and the number of employees of an applicant shall be determined as of the date the proceeding was initiated.

(c) The applicant's net worth includes the value of any assets disposed of for the purpose of meeting an eligibility standard and excludes any obligations incurred for this purpose. Transfers of assets or obligations incurred for less than reasonably equivalent value will be presumed to have been made for this purpose.

(d) The employees of an applicant include all persons who regularly perform services for remuneration for the applicant, under the applicant's direction and control; part-time employees shall be included on a proportional basis.

(e) The net worth and number of employees of the applicant and all of its affiliates shall be aggregated to determine eligibility. Any individual, corporation or other entity that directly or indirectly controls or owns a majority of the voting shares or other interest of the applicant, or any corporation or other entity of which the applicant directly or indirectly owns or controls a majority of the voting shares or other interest, will be considered an affiliate for purposes of this subpart, unless the NCUA Board determines that such treatment would be unjust and contrary to the purposes of the EAJA in light of the actual relationship between the affiliated entities. In addition, the NCUA Board may determine that financial relationships of the applicant other than those described in this paragraph constitute special circumstances that would make an award unjust.

(f) An applicant that participates in a proceeding primarily on behalf of one or more other persons or entities that would be in eligible is not itself eligible for an award.

§ 747.603 Prevailing party.

An eligible applicant may be a "prevailing party" if the applicant wins an action after a full hearing or trial on the merits, if a settlement of the proceeding was effected on terms favorable to it, or if the proceeding against it has been dismissed. In appropriate situations an applicant may also have prevailed if the outcome of the proceeding has substantially vindicated the applicant's position on the significant substantive matters at issue, even though the applicant has not totally avoided adverse final action.

§ 747.604 Standards for award.

(a) A prevailing party may receive an award for fees and expenses incurred in connection with a proceeding, or in a significant and discrete substantive portion of the proceeding, by or against NCUA unless the position of NCUA during the proceeding was substantially justified. The burden of proving that an award should not be made is on counsel for NCUA. To avoid an award, counsel for NCUA must show that its position was reasonable in law and in fact.

(b) An award will be reduced or denied if the applicant has unduly or unreasonably protracted the proceeding or if special circumstances make the award sought unjust.

(c) Where an applicant has prevailed on one or more discrete substantive issues in a proceeding, even though all the issues were not resolved in its favor, any award shall be based on the fees and expenses incurred in connection with the discrete significant substantive issue or issues on which the applicant's position has been upheld. If such segregation of costs is not practicable, the award may be based on a fair proration of those fees and expenses incurred in the entire proceeding which would be recoverable under this section if proration were not performed.

(d) Whether separate or prorated treatment under the preceding paragraph, including the applicable proration percentage, is appropriate shall be determined on the facts of the particular case. Attention shall be given to the significance and nature of the respective issues and their separability and interrelationship.

§ 747.605 Allowable fees and expenses.

(a) Except as provided by § 747.604(b), awards will be based on rates customarily charged by persons engaged in the business of acting as attorneys, agents and expert witnesses, even if the services were made available without charge or at a reduced rate.

(b) No award under this subpart for the fee of an attorney or agent may exceed $75.00 per hour. No award to compensate an expert witness may exceed the highest rate at which NCUA is permitted to pay expert witnesses. However, an award may also include the reasonable expenses of the attorney, agent or witness as a separate item, if the attorney, agent or witness ordinarily charges clients separately for such expenses.

(c) In determining the reasonableness of the fee sought for an attorney, agent, or expert witness, the NCUA Board shall consider the following:

(1) If the attorney, agent, or expert witness is in private practice, his or her customary fee for like services, or, if he or she is an employee of the applicant, the fully allocated cost of the services;

(2) The prevailing rate for similar services in the community in which the attorney, agent, or expert witness ordinarily performs services;

(3) The time actually spent in the representation of the applicant;

(4) Such other factors as may bear on the value of the services provided.

(d) The reasonable cost of any study, analysis, report, test, project, or similar matter prepared on behalf of the party may be awarded to the extent that the charge for the service does not exceed the prevailing rate for similar services, and the study or other matter was necessary for preparation of the applicant's case.

§ 747.606 Contents of application.

(a) A prevailing eligible party, as defined in §§ 747.602, 747.603, and 747.604, seeking an award under this section, must file an application for an award of fees and expenses with the Secretary of the NCUA Board. The application shall include the following information:

(1) The identity of the applicant and the proceeding for which an award is sought;

(2) A showing that the applicant has prevailed and an identification of the issues in the proceeding on which the applicant believes that the position of NCUA was not substantially justified;

(3) A statement, with supporting documentation, that the applicant is an eligible party, as defined by § 747.602. If the applicant is an individual, he or she must state that his or her net worth does not exceed $2 million. If the applicant is not an individual, it shall state the number of its employees and that its net worth does not exceed $7 million as of the date the proceeding was initiated. However, an applicant may omit a statement of net worth if:

(i) It attaches a copy of a ruling by the Internal Revenue Service that it qualifies as an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3)) or, in the case of a tax-exempt organization not required to obtain a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service on its exempt status, a statement that describes the basis for the applicant's belief that it qualifies under such section; or

(ii) It states that it is a cooperative association as defined in section 15(a) of the Agricultural Marketing Act (12 U.S.C. 1141j(a));

(4) A Statement of the amount of fees and expenses for which an award is sought; and

(5) Any other matters that the applicant believes may assist or wishes the NCUA Board to consider in determining whether and in what amount an award should be made.

(b) The application shall be signed by the applicant or an authorized officer or attorney of the applicant. It shall also contain or be accompanied by a written verification under oath or under penalty of perjury that the information provided in the application is true and correct.

(c) The application and documentation requirements of this subpart are required by law as a prerequisite to obtaining a benefit under the Equal Access to Justice Act and this subpart.

§ 747.607 Statement of net worth.

(a) Each applicant (other than a qualified tax exempt organization or cooperative association) must provide a detailed statement showing the net worth of the applicant and any affiliates, as defined in § 747.602(a), when the proceeding was initiated. The exhibit may be in any form convenient to the applicant that provides full disclosure of the applicant's and its affiliates' assets and liabilities and is sufficient to determine whether the applicant is an eligible party. The administrative law judge or the NCUA Board may require additional information from the applicant to determine eligibility. Unless otherwise ordered by the Board or required by law, the statement shall be kept confidential and used by the NCUA Board only in making its determination of an award.

(b) If the applicant or any of its affiliates is a Federal credit union, the portion of the statement of net worth which relates to the Federal credit union shall consist of a copy of the Federal credit union's last Statement of Financial Condition filed before the initiation of the underlying proceeding.

(c) All statements of net worth shall describe any transfers of assets from or obligations incurred by the applicant or any affiliate, occurring in the six-month period prior to the date on which the proceeding was initiated, which reduced the net worth of the applicant and its affiliates below the applicable net-worth ceiling. If there were none, the applicant shall so state.

§ 747.608 Documentation of fees and expenses.

The application shall be accompanied by full documentation of the fees and expenses, including the cost of any study, analysis, audit, test, project or similar matter, for which an award is sought. A separate itemized statement shall be submitted for each professional firm or individual whose services are covered by the application, showing hours spent in connection with the proceeding by each individual, a description of the specific services performed, the rate at which each fee has been computed, any expenses for which reimbursement is sought, the total amount claimed, and the total amount paid or payable by the applicant or by any other person or entity for the services provided. The administrative law judge or the NCUA Board may require the applicant to provide vouchers, receipts, or other substantiation for any expenses claimed.

§ 747.609 Filing and service of applications.

(a) An application may be filed whenever the applicant has prevailed in the proceeding or in a significant and discrete substantive portion of the proceeding, but in no case later than 30 days after the Board's final disposition of the proceeding.

(b) If review or reconsideration is sought or taken of a decision on which an applicant believes it has prevailed, proceedings for the award of fees shall be stayed pending final disposition of the underlying controversy.

(c) As used in this subpart, final disposition means the issuance of a final order or any other final resolution of a proceeding, such as a settlement or voluntary dismissal.

(d) Any application for an award of fees and expenses shall be filed with the Secretary of the Board, National Credit Union Administration, 1776 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20456. Any application for an award and any other pleading or document related to an application, shall be filed and served on all parties to the proceeding in the same manner as other pleadings in the proceeding, except as provided in § 747.607(a) for statements of net worth.

§ 747.610 Answer to application.

(a) Within 30 days after service of an application, counsel for NCUA may file an answer to the application. Unless counsel for NCUA requests and is granted an extension of time for filing or files a statement of intent to negotiate under paragraph (b) of this section, failure to file an answer within the 30-day period will be treated as a consent to the award requested.

(b) If counsel for NCUA and the applicant believe that the issues in the fee application can be settled, they may jointly file a statement of their intent to negotiate a settlement. The filing of this statement shall extend the time for filing an answer for an additional 30 days, and further extensions may be granted by the NCUA Board upon the joint request of counsel for NCUA and the applicant.

(c) The answer shall explain in detail any objections to the award requested and identify the facts relied on in support of counsel's position. If the answer is based on any alleged facts not already in the record of the proceeding, counsel shall include with the answer a request for further proceedings under § 747.613.

(d)(1) The applicant may file a reply if counsel for NCUA has addressed in his or her answer any of the following issues:

(i) That the position of NCUA in the proceeding was substantially justified;

(ii) That the applicant unduly protracted the proceedings; or

(iii) That special circumstances make an award unjust.

(2) The reply shall be filed within 15 days after service of the answer. If the reply is based on any alleged facts not already in the record of the proceeding, the applicant shall include with the reply a request for further proceedings under § 747.613.

§ 747.611 Comments by other parties.

Any party to a proceeding other than the applicant and counsel for NCUA may file comments on an application within 30 days after service of the application or on an answer within 15 days after service of the answer. A commenting party may not participate further in proceedings on the application unless the administrative law judge or the NCUA Board determines that the public interest requires such participation in order to permit full exploration of matters raised in the comments.

§ 747.612 Settlement.

The applicant and counsel for NCUA may agree on a proposed settlement of the award before final action on the application, either in connection with a settlement of the underlying proceeding, or after the underlying proceeding has been concluded, in accordance with NCUA's standard settlement procedure. If a prevailing party and counsel for NCUA agree on a proposed settlement of an award before an application has been filed, the application shall be filed with the proposed settlement.

§ 747.613 Further proceedings.

(a) After the expiration of the time allowed for the filing of all documents necessary for the determination of a recommended fee award, the NCUA Board shall transmit the entire record to the administrative law judge who presided at the underlying proceeding. Ordinarily, the determination of an award will be made on the basis of the written record. However, on request of either the applicant or counsel for NCUA, or on its own initiative, the administrative law judge or the NCUA Board may order further proceedings, such as an informal conference, oral argument, additional written submissions or an evidentiary hearing. Such further proceedings shall be held only when necessary for full and fair resolution of the issues arising from the application, and shall be conducted as promptly as possible.

(b) A request that the administrative law judge or the NCUA Board order further proceedings under this section shall specifically identify the information sought or the disputed issues and shall explain why the additional proceedings are necessary to resolve the issues.

§ 747.614 Recommended decision.

The administrative law judge shall file a recommended decision on the application with the NCUA Board within 60 days after completion of the proceedings on the application. The recommended decision shall include written findings and conclusions on the applicant's eligibility and status as a prevailing party, and an explanation of the reasons for any difference between the amount requested and the amount awarded. The recommended decision shall also include, if at issue, findings on whether NCUA's position was substantially justified, whether the applicant unduly protracted the proceedings, or whether special circumstances make an award unjust. If the applicant has sought an award against more than one agency, the recommended decision shall allocate responsibility for payment of any award made among the agencies, and shall explain the reasons for the allocation made. The administrative law judge shall file with and certify to the NCUA Board the record of the proceeding on the fee application, the recommended decision and proposed order. Promptly upon such filing, the NCUA Board shall serve upon each party to the proceeding a copy of the administrative law judge's recommended decision, findings, conclusions and proposed order. The provisions of this section and § 747.613 shall not apply, however, in any case where the hearing was held before the NCUA Board.

§ 747.615 Decision of the NCUA Board.

Within 15 days after service of the recommended decision, findings, conclusions, and proposed order, the applicant or counsel for NCUA may file with the NCUA Board written exceptions thereto. A supporting brief may also be filed. The NCUA Board shall render its decision within 60 days after the matter is submitted to it. The NCUA Board shall furnish copies of its decision and order to the parties. Judicial review of the NCUA Board's final decision and order may be obtained as provided in 5 U.S.C. 504(c)(2).

§ 747.616 Payment of award.

An applicant seeking payment of an award granted by the NCUA Board shall submit to the NCUA's Office of the Controller a copy of the NCUA Board's Final Decision and Order granting the award, accompanied by a statement that it will not seek review of the decision and order in the United States court. All submissions shall be addressed to the Office of the Controller, National Credit Union Administration, 1776 G Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20456. The NCUA will pay the amount awarded within 60 days after receiving the applicant's statement, unless judicial review of the award or of the underlying decision of the adversary adjudication has been sought by the applicant or any other party to the proceeding.

Subpart H—Local Rules and Procedures Applicable to Investigations

§ 747.701 Applicability.

The rules in this subpart apply only to informal and formal investigations conducted by the NCUA Board itself or its delegates. They do not apply to adjudicative or rulemaking proceedings or to routine, periodic or special examinations conducted by the NCUA Board's staff.

§ 747.702 Information obtained in investigations.

Information and documents obtained by the Board in the course of any investigation, unless made a matter of public record by the NCUA Board, shall be deemed non-public, but the NCUA Board approves the practice whereby the General Counsel may engage in, and may authorize any person acting on his or her behalf or at his or her direction to engage in, discussions with representatives of domestic or foreign governmental authorities, self-regulatory organizations, and with receivers, trustees, masters and special counsels or special agents appointed by and subject to the supervision of the courts of the United States, concerning information obtained in individual investigations, including investigations conducted pursuant to any order entered by the NCUA Board or its General Counsel pursuant to delegated authority.

§ 747.703 Authority to conduct investigations.

(a) The General Counsel and persons acting on his or her behalf and at his or her direction may conduct such investigations into the affairs of any insured credit union or institution-affiliated parties as deemed appropriate to determine whether such credit union or party has violated, is violating or is about to violate any provision of the NCUA, the NCUA Board's regulations or other relevant statutes or regulations that may bear on a party's fitness to participate in the affairs of a credit union. The General Counsel and persons acting on his or her behalf may investigate whether any party is unfit to participate in the affairs of a credit union, whether formal enforcement proceedings are warranted, or such other matters as the General Counsel or his or her designee, in his or her discretion, shall deem appropriate. Such investigations may be conducted either informally or formally.

(b) Formal investigations involve the exercise of the NCUA Board's subpoena power and are referred to here as formal investigative proceedings. In formal investigative proceedings, the General Counsel and those to whom he or she delegates authority to act on his or her behalf and at his or her direction have augmented investigatory powers and need not rely on the powers available to them in informal investigations, and they may gather evidence through the issuance of subpoenas compelling the production of documents or testimony as well. In informal investigations evidence may be gathered ordinarily through the use of investigatory procedures or credit union examinations and through voluntary statements and submissions.

(c) The NCUA Board has delegated authority to the General Counsel, or designee thereof, to institute formal investigative proceedings by the entry of an order indicating the purpose of the investigation and the designation of persons to conduct that investigation on his or her behalf and at his or her direction. This delegation also extends to the NCUA Board's role as liquidator and conservator of insured credit unions. The power to issue a subpoena may not be delegated outside the agency. The General Counsel may amend such order as he deems appropriate.

Subpart I—Local Rules Applicable to Formal Investigative Proceedings

§ 747.801 Applicability.

The rules in this subpart are applicable to a witness who is sworn in a formal investigative proceeding. Formal investigative proceedings may be held before the NCUA Board, before one or more of its members, or before any officer designated by the NCUA Board or its General Counsel, as described in subpart H of this part, and with or without the assistance of such other counsel as the NCUA Board deems appropriate, for the purpose of taking testimony of witnesses, conducting an investigation and receiving other evidence. The term "officer conducting the investigation" shall mean any of the foregoing.

§ 747.802 Non-public formal investigative proceedings.

Unless otherwise ordered by the NCUA Board, all formal investigative proceedings shall be non-public.

§ 747.803 Subpoenas.

(a) *Issuance.* In the course of a formal investigative proceeding the officer conducting the investigation may issue a subpoena directing the party named therein to appear before the officer conducting the investigation at a specified time and place to testify or to produce documentary evidence, or both, relating to any matter under investigation.

(b) *Service.* Service of subpoenas shall be effected in the following manner:

(1) Service upon a natural party. Delivery of a copy of a subpoena to a natural person may be effected by—

(i) Handing it to the person;

(ii) Leaving it at his or her office with the person in charge thereof or, if there is no one in charge, by leaving it at a conspicuous place there;

(iii) Leaving it at his or her dwelling place or usual place of abode with some person of suitable age and discretion who is found there; or

(iv) Mailing it by registered or certified mail to him at his or her last known address. In the event that personal service as described in this paragraph is impracticable, any other method whereby actual notice is given to the respondent may be employed.

(2) Service upon other persons. When the person to be served is not a natural person, delivery of a copy of the subpoena may be effected by—

(i) Handing it to a registered agent for service, or to any officer, director, or agent in charge of any office of such person;

(ii) Mailing it by registered or certified mail to any such representative at his or her last known address; or

(iii) Any other method whereby actual notice is given to any such representative.

(c) *Witness fees and mileage.* Witnesses appearing pursuant to subpoena shall be paid the same fees and mileage that are paid to witnesses in the United States district courts. Any such fees and mileage payments need be paid only upon submission of a properly completed application for reimbursement and in no event need they be paid sooner than 30 days after the appearance of the witness pursuant to subpoena.

(d) *Enforcement.* Whenever it appears to the General Counsel that any person upon whom a subpoena was properly served pursuant to these Rules is refusing to fully comply with the terms of that subpoena, then the General Counsel, in his or her discretion, may apply to the courts of the United States for enforcement of such subpoena.

§ 747.804 Oath; false statements.

At the discretion of the officer conducting the investigation, testimony of a witness may be taken under oath and administered by the officer. Any person making false statements under oath during the course of a formal investigative proceeding is subject to the criminal penalties for perjury in 18 U.S.C. 1621. Any person who knowingly and willfully makes false and fraudulent statements, whether under oath or otherwise, or who falsifies, conceals or covers up any material fact, or submits any false, fictitious or fraudulent information in connection with such a proceeding, is subject to the criminal penalties set forth in 18 U.S.C. 1001.

§ 747.805 Self-incrimination; immunity.

(a) *Self-incrimination.* Except as provided below, a witness testifying or otherwise giving information in a formal investigative proceeding may refuse to answer questions on the basis of his or her right against self-incrimination granted by the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

(b) *Immunity.* (1) No officer conducting any formal investigative proceeding (or any other informal investigation or examination) shall have the power to grant or promise any party any immunity from criminal prosecution under the laws of the United States or of any other jurisdiction.

(2) If the NCUA Board believes that the testimony or other information sought to be obtained from any party may be necessary to the public interest and that party has refused or is likely to refuse to testify or provide other information on the basis of his or her privilege against self-incrimination, the NCUA Board, with the approval of the Attorney General, may issue an order requiring the party to give testimony or provide other information that he or she has previously refused to provide on the basis of self-incrimination.

(3) Whenever a witness refuses, on the basis of his privilege against self-incrimination, to testify or provide other information in a formal investigative proceeding, and the officer conducting the investigation communicates to that person an order of the NCUA Board requiring him or her to testify or provide other information, the witness may not refuse to comply with the order on the basis of his or her privilege against self-incrimination; but no testimony or other information compelled under the order (or any information directly or indirectly derived from such testimony or other information) may be used against the witness in any criminal case, except a prosecution for perjury, giving a false statement, or otherwise failing to comply with the order.

§ 747.806 Transcripts.

Transcripts, if any, of formal investigative proceedings shall be recorded solely by the official reporter, or by any other person or means designated by the officer conducting the investigation. A party who has submitted documentary evidence or testimony in a formal investigative proceeding shall be entitled, upon written request, to procure a copy of his or her documentary evidence or a transcript of his or her testimony on payment of the appropriate fees; *Provided, however,* That in a nonpublic formal investigative proceeding the NCUA Board may for good cause deny such request or the NCUA Board may place reasonable limitations upon the use of the documentary evidence and transcript. In any event, any witness, upon proper identification, shall have the right to inspect the official transcript of the witness's own testimony.

§ 747.807 Rights of witnesses.

(a) In the event that a formal investigative proceeding is conducted pursuant to a specific order entered by the NCUA Board or by its General Counsel, then any party who is compelled or requested to provide documentary evidence or testimony as part of such proceeding shall, upon request, be shown a copy of the NCUA Board's or its delegate's order. Copies of such orders shall not be provided for their retention to such persons requesting same except in the sole discretion of the General Counsel or his designee.

(b) Any party compelled to appear, or who appears by request or permission of the officer conducting the investigation, in person at a formal investigative proceeding may be accompanied, represented and advised by counsel who is a member of the bar of the highest court of any state; *Provided however,* That all witnesses in such proceeding shall be sequestered, and unless permitted in the discretion of the officer conducting the investigation, no witness or the counsel accompanying any such witness shall be permitted to be present during the examination of any other witness called in such proceeding.

(c)(1) The right of a witness to be accompanied, represented and advised by counsel shall mean the right to have an attorney present during any formal investigative proceeding and to have the attorney—

(i) Advise such person before, during and after such testimony;

(ii) Question such person briefly at the conclusion of his testimony to clarify any answers such person has given; and

(iii) Make summary notes during such testimony solely for the use of such person.

(2) From time to time, in the discretion of the officer, it shall be necessary for persons other than the witness and his or her counsel to attend non-public investigative proceedings. For example, the officer may deem it appropriate that outside counsel to the NCUA Board attend and advise him or her concerning the proceeding including the examination of a particular witness. In these circumstances, outside counsel would not be an officer as that term is used. In other circumstances, it may be appropriate that a technical expert (such as an accountant) accompany the witness and his or her counsel in order to assist counsel in understanding technical issues. These latter circumstances should be rare, are left to the discretion of the officer conducting the investigation, and shall not in any event be allowed to serve as a ruse to coordinate testimony between witnesses, to oversee or supervise the testimony of any witness, or otherwise defeat the beneficial effects of the witness sequestration rule.

(d) The officer conducting the investigation may report to the NCUA Board any instances where any witness or counsel has been guilty of dilatory, obstructionist or contumacious conduct during the course of a formal investigative proceeding or any other instance of violations of these rules. The NCUA Board will thereupon take such further action as the circumstance may warrant including barring the offending person from further participation in the particular formal investigative proceeding or even from further practice before the Board.

Subpart J—Local Procedures and Standards Applicable to a Notice of Change in Senior Executive Officers, Directors or committee Members Pursuant to Section 212 of the FCUA

§ 747.901 Scope.

The rules and procedures set forth in this subpart shall apply to the notice filed by a credit union pursuant to section 212 of the FCUA (12 U.S.C. 1791) and § 701.14 of this chapter, for the consent of the NCUA to add to or replace an individual on the board of directors or supervisory or credit committee, or to employ any individual as a senior executive office or change the responsibilities of any individual to a position of senior executive officer where the credit union either has been chartered less than 2 years; or is in "troubled condition," as defined in § 701.14 of this chapter. Subpart A of this part shall not apply to any proceeding under this subpart.

§ 747.902 Grounds for disapproval of notice.

The NCUA Board or its designee may issue a notice of disapproval with respect to a notice submitted by a credit union pursuant to section 212 of the FCUA and § 701.14 of this chapter, where the competence, experience character or integrity of the individual with respect to whom such notice is submitted indicates that it would not be in the best interest of the members of the credit union or the public to permit the individual to be employed by or associated with, such credit union.

§ 747.903 Procedures where notice of disapproval issued; reconsideration.

(a) The notice of disapproval shall be served upon the federally insured credit union and the candidate for director, committee member or senior executive officer. The notice of disapproval shall:

(1) Summarize or cite the relevant consideration specified in § 747.902;

(2) Inform the individual and the credit union that, within 15 days of receipt of the notice of disapproval, they can request reconsideration by the Regional Director of the initial determination, or can appeal the determination directly to the NCUA Board;

(3) Specify what additional information, if any, must be constant in the reconsideration.

(b) The request for reconsideration by the Regional Director must be filed at the appropriate Regional Office.

(c) The Regional Director shall act on a request for reconsideration within 30 days of its receipt.

§ 747.904 Appeal.

(a) *Time for filing.* Within 15 days after issuance of a Notice of Disapproval or a determination on a request for reconsideration by the Regional Director, the individual or credit union (henceforth petitioner) may appeal by filing with the NCUA Board a written request for appeal.

(b) *Contents of request.* Any appeal must be in writing and include:

(1) The reasons why NCUA should review its disapproval; and

(2) Relevant, substantive and material documents that for good cause were not previously set forth in the notice required to be filed pursuant to section 212 of the FCUA and § 701.14 of this chapter.

(c) *Procedures for review of request.* Within 30 days of the NCUA Board's receipt of an appeal, the NCUA Board may request in writing that the

petitioner submit additional facts and records to support the appeal. The petitioner shall have 15 days from the date of issuance of such written request to provide such additional information. Failure by the petitioner to provide additional information may, as determined solely by the NCUA Board or its designee, result in denial of the petitioner's appeal.

(d) *Determination on appeal bv NCUA Board or its designee.* (1) Within 90 days from the date of the receipt of an appeal by the NCUA Board or its designee or of its receipt of additional information requested under paragraph (c) of this section, the NCUA Board or its designee shall notify the petitioner whether the disapproval will be continued, terminated, or otherwise modified. The NCUA Board or its designee shall promptly rescind or modify the notice of disapproval where the decision is favorable to the petitioner.

(2) The determination by the NCUA Board on the appeal shall be provided to the petitioner in writing, stating the basis for any decision of the NCUA Board or its designee that is adverse to the petitioner, and shall constitute a final order of the NCUA Board.

(3) Failure by the NCUA Board to issue a determination on the petitioner's appeal within the 90-day period prescribed under paragraph (d) (1) of this section shall be deemed a denial of the appeal for purpose of § 747.905.

§ 747.905 Judicial review.

(a) Failure to file an appeal within the applicable time periods, either to the initial determination or to the decision a request for reconsideration, shall constitute a failure by the petitioner to exhaust available administrative remedies and, due to such failure, any objections to the initial determination or request for reconsideration shall be deemed to be waived and such determination shall be deemed to have been accepted by, and shall be binding upon, the petitioner.

(b) For purposes of seeking judicial review of actions taken pursuant to this section, suit may be filed in the United States District Court for the district where the requester resides, where the credit union's principal place of business is located, or in the District of Columbia.

Subparts K and L [Removed]

5. Subparts K and L are removed.

Dated: June 5, 1991.

Becky Baker,

Secretary of the National Credit Union Administration Board.

[FR Doc. 91–13881 Filed 6–14–91; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810–33–M, 6210–01–M, 6714–01–M, 6720–01–M, 7535–01–M